University of California.
With the respects of
Mrs B. F. Perry wife of
Governor Benj. F. Perry
Sans Souci. Greenville.
South Carolina.
Easter. April 21. 1889.

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# IN MEMORIAM.

# Benjamin Franklin Perry,

EX-GOVERNOR

OF

## South Carolina.

BORN:
NOVEMBER 20, 1805.

DIED:
DECEMBER 3, 1886.

"The Elements,
So mixed in him that Nature might stand up
And say to all the world, 'this was a man?'"

SECOND EDITION.

REVISED AND ENLARGED.



GREENVILLE, S. C.:
GREENVILLE DAILY NEWS PRESSES.
1887.

THE best evidence of a man's value in the world and of his character, is given by those who have felt and seen his work and known his life by direct observation of it and contact with him.

This memorial is intended to put in enduring form and in the hands of the friends and relatives of the late B. F. Perry, an outline sketch of his noble and useful life and a compilation of the expressions regarding him evoked by his death from the newspapers and leading men of his State where he was most intimately known, from the bar where he practiced so many years and from a few of the intimate friends and kinsmen who had the best right to know of his private and home life.

It is compiled and published by the widow, who during a married life of fifty years found in his character and life only what she could love, honor and be proud of, and whose care it is that the memory of his virtues and the example of his noble devotion to his duty and his country shall be preserved for future generations.



# AN OUTLINE

OF

# GOVERNOR PERRY'S LIFE.

[From the Greenville Daily News, December 4, 1886.]

There has been a general feeling in Greenville that ex-Governor B. F. Perry would not recover from the illness with which he has been suffering during the past month. His age and the serious character of his malady forbade hope that his life would be much prolonged. Nevertheless, there was a general expression of surprise mingled with the involuntary one of sorrow when the fact of his death became known on yesterday.

He died at half past one o'clock yesterday morning. During the early part of the night he was restless and complained of pains in his chest, and Mrs. Perry, Mrs Beattie, the governor's daughter, and Representative W. H. Perry, his eldest son, and a colored woman—a former slave whose devotion to the governor since her freedom gives eloquent testimony to the gentleness with which the master who never quailed before any opposing force used his power over his bondwoman, and whose presence as nurse was at her own request—remained at his bedside. Later the governor became easier and Mrs. Beattie and Colonel Perry retired. At about half past one the nurse noticed that the governor's breathing was hard and called Mrs. Perry's attention to it. He turned on his right side without assistance and the nurse hastily went out to call Mrs. Beattie and Colonel Perry. During her absence the governor made a gurgling sound and stopped breathing instantly, giving no indication of suffering and without the least struggle. When death finally came it was as sudden as a stroke of lightning.

Governor Perry's last illness may be said to have begun on Sunday, November 7th. On that day he was attacked with vertigo while on the stairs leading to the second story of his residence and fell, bruising himself slightly. Dr. T. T. Earle was immediately sent for and his treatment resulted in a partial restoration of the strength and vitality for which the patient was so remarkable during the latter years of his life. On the twenty-seventh of the same month the governor suffered another and more serious attack. Dr. Earle was absent and Dr. George E. Trescot was called in. He saw that the governor was then suffering from valvular disease of the heart and that it had reached such a stage that it was likely to end his life suddenly at any time. The members of the family were candidly informed of the facts and warned to be prepared, and the result was, therefore, less of a shock than it would have been in different circumstances. The general cause of death was failure of the vital functions, caused by old age. The heart had simply worn itself out by long years of service and ceased to beat. The governor's general health was remarkably good to the last, and his physical and mental strength were wonderful for a man of eighty-one years. It is thought that the cold weather hastened his death somewhat.

Governor Perry's full name was Benjamin Franklin Perry. He was born November 20th, 1805, in what is now Oconee county but was then part of Pendleton district. He was of Revolutionary stock, his father being a native of Massachusetts of English descent who fought in the Continental army, and his mother, Miss Foster, a daughter of John Foster, of Virginia, who was a lieutenant in the regular American army. He and Commodore Oliver Perry were of common ancestry, springing from the same English stock.

Governor Perry's father came from Charleston, whither he went in 1784, met his wife in Greenville and was married here. He removed to Oconee and engaged in farming. B. F. Perry worked on his father's farm and went to school until he was sixteen, when he was sent to Asheville, N. C., where he studied languages, making astonishing progress by the great capacity for labor and the retentive memory developed even at that early age. He came to Greenville, then a small backwoods village, in 1824, and began the study of law in the office of Judge Earle.

In 1827 he was admitted to the bar, having finished his course under Colonel James Gregg, of Columbia. He returned to Greenville and began the practice of law for the western circuit.

In 1832 he first became conspicuous in politics and appeared as a

leader in the fight for the preservation of the Union that he continued to wage twenty-eight years against the overwhelming sentiment of the State. He became the editor of the Mountaineer and quickly made it the recognized organ of the Union party of the State. Immense majorities of the people were against him, led by almost all the talent, learning and social and political power, with John C. Calhoun, the idol of the State, at their head promulgating his theories of nullification and finding almost unanimous endorsement. Governor Perry was a delegate to the Union convention held at Columbia in 1832 and represented this county, being elected at the head of the ticket, in the general convention of the people of the State called in the fall of the same year.

It was during this period that the famous duel with Bynum occurred. It was caused by political quarrel, and with the spirit and the code of morals of the time it could not be avoided. Governor Perry rarely alluded to it afterward, and then always with sorrow, but it is understood that the quarrel was accepted by him as a deliberate test of his courage, intended to destroy his influence if he failed to endure it successfully. All accounts agree that he bore himself with good temper, unfaltering courage and dignity, and that while he deplored the unfortunate result to the end of his life and from that time persistently refused to engage in affairs of honor, he could justly be held blameless.

In 1834 Governor Perry, then twenty-nine years old, was the Union nominee for congress in this district, then Mr. Calhoun's, against Warren R. Davis, and was defeated by a majority of sixty in a poll of 7,000. Mr. Davis dying before he could take his seat, Governor Perry again became the candidate of his party against General Thompson; but was disabled by an accident early in the canvass and again suffered defeat. In 1836 he was elected to the State legislature without opposition. There he maintained and was the leading exponent of the principles he had always held. He opposed the agitation of the slavery question and was a warm and conspicuous advocate of the Louisville and Cincinnati railroad. He was reelected in 1838, and as chairman of the committee on claims became noted for his ceaseless guardianship of the State's interests and his unrelenting hostility to all that was tainted with extravagance or subject to suspicion. On the floor he was the leader of the element that persistenly demanded and fought for changes in the system of State government and the increase of the power of the people. All prisoners were then confined in the county jails, the governor and presidential electors

were chosen by the legislature and by the parish system the lower part of the State was given what Governor Perry and those who followed him believed to be undue representation in the senate. Against all these things he fought, urging the establishment of a penitentiary, the choice of governor and electors by popular vote and the equalization of the representation of the up country and low country. He was almost invariably defeated in the legislature, but retained the confidence and support of the people he represented.

In 1844 he was elected to the State senate, and while a member of that body voted alone against the resolution ordering the expulsion from the State of Mr. Hoar, who was sent here by the State of Massachusetts. Every other senator voted for it, but Governor Perry spoke energetically against it and had his solitary vote recorded on the negative side, declaring that hostile majorities had no terrors for him while he was conscientiously performing his duty. He was defeated by Governor Orr in another contest for congress, the stand of the latter in favor of General Taylor securing for him the whig vote in addition to the part of the democratic vote he commanded. Governor Perry was chosen by the legislature an elector at large for this State to vote for Cass for president. He was one of the fathers of the Greenville and Columbia railroad, and his powerful influence and untiring energy contributed much to its successful building.

In 1850 the secession feeling was tremendous in the State, and the people seemed to be practically unanimous. The sentiment was violent and the enthusiasm great and the Union party had no existence but among a scattered and powerless few. In face of all this Governor Perry established at Greenville a newspaper, the Southern Patriot, bold and avowed in its advocacy of the Union cause, the one newspaper in the State maintaining those principles. He was again elected to the legislature and he and his two colleagues from this county were the only Union men in the body, this being the one county that stood for that side. In the house Governor Perry delivered a ringing, bold speech, defending the Union and denouncing the efforts to break it, and declared that he intended to have that speech printed and published and handed down as a legacy to his country and his children—a promise which he faithfully kept. It was the first check the secession movement received in this State at that time and was copied and quoted from one end of the country to the other. He was a member of the State convention in 1851, and as a member of the committee of twenty-one appointed to prepare business, prepared and submitted an able minority report dissenting from the resolutions prepared and pre-

sented by Judge Cheves, which defended the right of secession but declined to use it at that time.

In 1860 Governor Perry was one of the delegates from this State to the famous Charleston convention of the democratic party. He refused to withdraw with the other delegates from this State and remained, voting steadily for R. M. T. Hunter, of Virginia, as the candidate of the party for president.

The galleries hissed him every time he rose to vote, and when he rose to speak the hissing became so loud and continuous that he could with difficulty proceed. The chairman, Mr. Cushing, threatened to clear the galleries, but the man who had faced and defied angry multitudes and put his life and property in jeopardy a score of times was not the one to be frightened by such demonstrations. "Let them remain, Mr. Chairman," he said in the deep, strong tones and deliberate manner always characteristic of him, "I would like them to hear what I have to say." And they did hear him while he spoke with all his power for the unity of the great democratic party and declared that on its success depended the life of the Union. As is well remembered, his urging was of no avail. The party split and nominated two candidates, and Abraham Lincoln was elected.

In 1860 an election was ordered for a convention of the people of South Carolina to declare the Union dissolved. Governor Perry fought secession then as he had fought it and nullification before. He predicted the war and the defeat of the South, and urged that it was folly to secede with a democratic majority in congress, in the supreme court and in the country. But the wave overpowered him. He went down flying his colors to the last and raising his voice for the Union. Greenville county was carried along in the rush and B. F. Perry, James P. Boyce and Chief Justice O'Neall, the Union candidates for the convention, were defeated, Governor Perry being beaten in his own county the first time in thirty years. But when the secession ordinance was adopted he yielded to the will of the majority and went with his State. "You are all going to the devil and I will go with you" was his good humored announcement of his purpose. From that time he was unswerving in his loyalty to the Confederacy. Being then fifty-six years old he could not enter active service himself, but his eldest son was sent to the front and Governor Perry supported the government with voice, service and purse. During the war he served as member of the legislature, Confederate commissioner, district attorney and district judge.

In the misfortunes brought on by disregard of his advice Governor

Perry shared with his people. He stood by them with conspicuous firmness and boldness in the dark hours after the war. He was not only with the people but felt with them, and some of his speeches of that time gave evidence of the bitterness that was then over the spirit of the South. But without the solicitation of himself or his friends he was chosen by President Johnson, the provisional governor of the State. The appointment was received with universal satisfaction. Governor Perry's consistent record as a Union man won for him the good will of the North and he already possessed the full confidence of the people of this State. His strength of character and intellect and cool, sound judgment fitted him well to guide the State through that stormy time. Quiet dignity and the purpose to restore the State to peace and prosperity marked his conduct during his administration of six months. He ignored all party claims and alliances, appointed to fill the offices those persons who had occupied them at the close of the war, obtained an order abolishing the military tribunals that had been trying civil and criminal cases, so far as white persons were concerned, and restored the confidence of the people by refusing to levy or collect taxes and using the pardoning power liberally. Under his government the first election after the war was held, resulting in the choice of the Hon. J. L. Orr. Meantime Governor Perry had labored actively in behalf of the State with the Federal administration and succeeded in making an impression on the president and Secretary Seward which doubtless did much to mitigate the rigor of her treatment. The legislature elected and in session during Governor Perry's term did much of the work he had given his energies to against such opposing odds during many years. The parish system he had fought so hard was abolished, the right of electing governor and presidential electors was given to the people, the penitentiary was established and the courts of law and equity were amalgamated, and the State was separated from all connection with banks.

At the expiration of his service as governor he returned to Greenville, but he continued his active interest in public affairs and his efforts to improve the condition of his State and people. He was elected to the United States senate, but, like the other Southern senators, was denied the seat. His faithful and heroic stand for the Union, made at far greater sacrifice and against worse odds and more danger than any man then on the floor of the senate had endured, was forgot or disregarded. Men who had been disunionists while he was facing furious mobs and enduring banishment from honors and almost from friendships and holding his faith in and love for the Union solitary in a

crowd of angered opponents, voted to shut him out of the senate chamber because he refused to desert his people in the humiliation and desolation he foresaw coming on them. He was a bitter opponent of the reconstruction measures and wrote and spoke strongly to prove that the people would be better under an indefinite military rule than under negro and carpet bagger government—a conclusion which all the white people had reached by 1876 when their campaign cry was "Hampton or a military governor!"

In 1867 he was a delegate to the Philadelphia convention. In 1868 he represented the State in the national democratic convention that nominated Seymour and Blair. The people of his State—as if eager to atone for the injustice of the past and to express their confidence and affection and their appreciation of the vindication of his wisdom brought by time and events—continued to heap honors on him. The democratic convention of the Fourth congressional district, then composed of York, Chester, Fairfield, Union, Spartanburg, Laurens, Greenville, Pickens and Oconee counties, met at Columbia in September, 1872, and unanimously tendered him the nomination for the Federal house of representatives. The nomination was unanimously endorsed by the press and people of the State, and Governor Perry accepted the leadership of the forlorn hope as he accepted every duty, and made a thorough canvass of the large district. His fate was that of all other democratic candidates of the time, but his indomitable spirit was not broken by defeat, and immediately after the election he published an address to the voters urging them to oppose the radical government and to continue to fight it, and denouncing the corruption of the party in power in good round English terms, not forgetting to upbraid the white people for the apathy and timidity they were showing. His last prominent public service was in 1876 when at the age of seventy-one he went as one of the South Carolina delegation to the St. Louis convention by which Tilden and Hendricks were nominated.

Governor Perry's political career is that most known and interesting to the public, but through long years it was a succession of apparent failures. In the practice of his profession, in which he was matched against single antagonists and not against a legion of politicians and orators and angry multitudes of people, he was uniformly successful. He took a high place at the bar early in life and retained it to the end, winning honor and money. His practice was always marked by conscientious devotion to his cause, careful study and strong, logical handling. He was always a dignified and courteous lawyer, giving others all the respect they merited and rigidly exacting like

treatment, conforming his conduct to the highest standards of professional ethics. He was employed by General Thompson in 1851 to assist in the defence of Dr. Gardiner, indicted in the District of Columbia for perjury in presenting false claims against the Mexican government. It was a famous case of the time and offered fees then considered immense. But Governor Perry, after spending several weeks investigating the case, became convinced of Gardiner's guilt and promptly returned home. When he became convinced that the judiciary of this State was corrupt he retired almost entirely from active practice and sought the retirement of his farm "Sans Souci" near Greenville city, where he has lived since and where he died.

Governor Perry during his life had many friends and many enemies. He was not an effusive man and made little display of his friendships, but they were valuable and enduring. He was "a plain, blunt man," and when he disliked or distrusted made no secret of it. Stubborn in his opinions he was always willing to concede honesty to his opponents and to give courtesy while it was appreciated and reciprocated. His fighting was all done fairly and openly. Of scrupulous integrity and with unspotted purity of character, he hated rascality and meanness or anything he took for it with an unrelenting hatred and was always ready to lead warfare against it. He did not often win friends; he commanded them by the force of his character and his unswerving loyalty.

He married in 1837 in the city of Charleston, Miss Elizabeth F. McCall, daughter of Hext McCall and niece of Robert Y. Hayne. They had nine children, of whom four survive—Mrs. Wm. Beattie, Representative W. H. Perry, Dr. Hext M. Perry, of Philadelphia, and B. F. Perry, Jr. Mrs. Perry survives the Governor; on her more especially his death comes with fearful force, and while the sympathy of hundreds of friends throughout the country are with the entire family, a special measure of it will be for her who has so many years illustrated the devotion and love of which woman is capable as wife and mother.

Governor Perry was a man of pure life, simple tastes and temperate habits. During the last ten years most of his time has been spent at his place in the country where he had built one of the handsomest residences in the State. He usually drove into town in his carriage, received his mail, remained in the office of his law firm, composed of himself, W. H. Perry and Julius H. Heyward, a few hours in the forenoon, and returned to his home. There he had one of the most complete libraries in the country, covering the whole range of litera-

ture, and he devoted himself to making new literary acquaintances and renewing old ones. He was an eager buyer and reader of new books and a prolific writer for the press, although he rarely appeared in print during the last years of his life except when his interest was especially aroused in some matter of local or general moment. At one time he prepared and published in newspapers a series of historical sketches of this section of the State and reminiscences of the many distinguished men he had known and been associated with. Some of these have been compiled and printed in book form by Dr. Hext M. Perry, preceded by a brief biography of the Governor, making a volume of much interest. Governor Perry left doubtless material for many other volumes of historical interest, including newspaper files, unpublished sketches and memoirs, a carefully kept diary of his life and many of his speeches and more important published articles.

He was not a communicant but was a zealous friend and supporter of Christ Episcopal church, where his family attended. During all his life he gave much attention to religion and his conduct was conformed to the teachings of Christianity in which he was a sincere and earnest believer.

The last years of his life were very tranquil and happy in the society of his family, the friends he delighted to welcome to the hospitable halls of Sans Souci, his books and his writings, peacefully busy with few cares, and an honest record and useful life to look back on, only awaiting the summons he knew must soon come.

# COMMENTS

OF

# SOUTH CAROLINA

## NEWSPAPERS.

[From the Greenville Daily News.]

One of the biggest and strongest men this country has known died here on Friday. He was cast in a big mold, morally, intellectually and physically, and Nature in her mysterious operations for the destruction of her work seems to have designed an appropriate ending. There was none of the pitiful weakness of decay. The years brought no childish treble to the big manly voice, no dullness of perception or senile feebleness to the active, vigorous mind. Like an old oak tree struck by the axe he fell while yet strong and towering, and died with the honors, years and compensations of age before the calamities of age had come upon him.

Governor Perry was sometimes spoken of by his admirers as "the old Roman," and surely he deserved the title by virtue of the qualities ascribed to the Romans in the best days of the republic, when Romans were as brothers and all were for the State. Courage, tenacity of purpose, force of character and rigid adherence to principle marked his course through all the years of his manhood. As the youth began the old man ended. The path of his duty and his conscience led straight across the popular way. But the fury of the people, the seductions of friends, the promises of ambition, the overwhelming power of opponents combined against him failed to cause the swerving of a step. He could not see the end or know where the road he trod would lead him; disaster after disaster fell upon him until the limits of his county seemed to be the impenetrable boundary of his aspirations. The only effect of it all was to nerve and urge him to stronger and bolder labors for the cause he believed to be right.

Years and events approved his judgment and his principles, but they were not needed to win him honor. His thirty years of hopeless fighting was honor and triumph enough because it was evidence that could not be questioned that he believed in his cause and had in him the manhood, strength and devotion that constitute heroism.

Whether measured by the invisible standard of the soul, felt but not definable in words or to be expressed by figures, or by the baser measurement of utility, Governor Perry's life is worthy of study and emulation. There is a tremendous elation and power and a splendor more felt by the heart than any discernable to the senses in the feeling of a man that he is right—right beyond doubt—and that he is maintaining the right against odds and will be proved right in the end. It is worth all the labor and sacrifice of a life.

And if life holds, time will bring the reward for the man who cleaves his way right onward, undismayed and unallured. The coward who truckles to place and powers, the shuffler who crooks the hinges of his knee and climbs by devious courses, must go down and be lost with the long procession of their like. But the man who clings to his sound principles and fears nobody and nothing will be remembered and honored—after he is dead sometimes, but always sooner or later.

Read the story of Governor Perry's life as it is briefly and imperfectly told to-day. Read it and remember it.

He was a man—the thing that only God can make and the only thing He has made in His likeness—a manly man with manly virtues, holding and proving his manhood and never dishonoring it, and therein the most splendid of the creations of Omnipotence and very worthy to be honored.

That can be said of him with truth. What more or what better need be or could be said of any man?

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[From the Charleston News and Courier.]

Governor Perry was a grand figure in South Carolina affairs, a Romanesque rock standing out boldly in the midst of the troubled sea of politics, and unmoved by dashing waves or pelting storm. Unquestionably he was the head and front and chieftain of the Union sentiment in South Carolina. In the Union cause he fleshed his sword more than fifty years ago.

There was hot work in South Carolina in those old days. In 1832, in his lusty youth, Governor Perry fought Mr. Bynum, the editor of the Greenville Sentinel, and wounded him mortally at the first shot

on the field. After this he declined to accept any challenge. The first and fatal meeting was more than enough.

Governor Perry opposed secession, first and last and all the while. But, honest Carolinian as he was, he was with his people, heart and soul, when the die was cast, and South Carolina had withdrawn from the sisterhood of States. It was not for him to reason why. South Carolina had taken her course, and, as a loyal son, he went with South Carolina and exerted himself to the utmost to strengthen her endeavor.

Some measure of reward came to him when the struggle was over, as by reason of his noble record he was appointed governor of the State. Superbly he discharged the difficult duties that were imposed upon him in that time of transition and adjustment. Afterwards he came rarely before the public, but from his eyrie on the slope of the Blue Ridge he watched the course of events, and was ready always to give to his people the benefit of his ripe and varied observation and profound knowledge of men and affairs.

Statesman, jurist, and man of letters and patriot, unflinching in his loyalty to these United States, and immovable in his devotion to the Commonwealth of South Carolina, Governor Perry was in many respects without peer in our public life, and in nothing that was worthy and of good report had he any superior.

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[From the Columbia Register.]

The death of ex-Governor Perry at his home near Greenville yesterday afternoon will be received with deep regret in all parts of the State. * * * * The deceased was a remarkable man from many points of view. For many years the consistent, outspoken, courageous defender of Union doctrines in opposition to all the declared principles of his native State, he never flinched from the advocacy of his opinions whatever the majority against him. He was opposed to secession from first to last, but when his State acted he surrendered his life-long convictions to her commands. We sincerely believe that there was no more conscientious and patriotic citizen in all the State than he who now has been gathered to the fold of Carolina's great sons as they sleep beneath her soil.

The deceased for many years represented the district of Greenville in the State assembly, and he was always recognized as a most conspicuous member. His opinions were always earnestly and frankly expressed. He took a bold stand on every public measure and squarely toed the mark in every position of his long life.

Such was the declared character of the man in all things that he was highly respected by those who opposed his views no less than by those who followed his lead.

This distinguished Carolinian was selected by President Andrew Johnson, from not a few eminent Unionists in South Carolina, to fill the important trust of provisional governor on the termination of the war in 1865. As provisional governor, Governor Perry earnestly advocated a policy of magnanimous peace. He had no patience with the policy of persecution and revenge. He did all he possibly could to shield his distressed fellow-citizens from the savage policy of hate which then surged up against our devoted State as "the cause of the war." He stood by his State as faithfully in the dire moment of her downfall as he had manfully resisted the temper and policies which had led up to the war. He was too brave a man himself to have lot or parcel with those who were willing to strike the downfallen.

Ex-Governor Perry's memory, then, will long be cherished by all who love and admire true manhood in its highest sense, whether it be in friend or foe. And Greenville will lovingly cherish the memory of her great son as one of the most remarkable men the State has ever given birth to.

The father of an honored family, among whom is the representative in congress from this district, the Hon. Wm. Perry, the deceased goes to rest without an enemy in the State, though it was long opposed to his political opinions. Let him sleep, then, in the bosom of his mother State as no unhonored son among those who illustrated her, named with a virtue, courage and unblemished repute, which shall teach generation after generation of her sons how it is to live like a Carolinian and how it is to die as such, without fear and without reproach.

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[From the Greenville Enterprise and Mountaineer.

He was a remarkable man in many respects. He was distinguished for the great purity of his character, his profound knowledge of law, his undying devotion to principle, and for a studiousness that remained with him to the day of his death.

In his death the State and Union have lost a citizen of which each might justly feel great pride. The people of Greenville almost idolized him, and he has controlled their public sentiment for more than half a century, and there is no one of equal character and abilities to take his place.

Whatever position in life Governor Perry was called on to fill,

whether member of the legislature, member of a State convention, commissioner, district attorney, district judge of the Southern Confederacy, provisional governor of the State, delegate to conventions of the democratic party, legal counsellor or citizen, he never failed to discharge his duties with a rigid fidelity and great ability that commanded the esteem of every one. His name was a synonym of uprightness, integrity and bold performance of duty. He had contempt for mean actions and duplicity in men, and was severe in condemnation of them.

He was one of nature's noblemen, in physical statue and features, as well as in mind and heart.

It is sad indeed to know that his familiar face and noble form have passed from our midst forever, and that we will see him no more.

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[From the Anderson Journal]

Governor Perry was a lawyer by profession, and had for the greater part of his life taken an active interest in all public affairs. He was of a conservative disposition, opposed to extreme measures, and was therefore without a great following in fire eating days, but many who opposed him lived to see and confess that his was the position dictated by wisdom, and that if his teachings had been followed the country would have been saved great suffering and demoralization. As editor of the old Greenville Mountaineer, his marked ability, energy and opposition to nullification made it at that time one of the leading papers in South Carolina. As an opponent of secession he had to suffer defeat among his own people, who chose to follow the extremists of the time, but when his State had seceded, like the patriot he was, he offered his service in her defense. * * * * * * * * * *

He lived to see the doctrines of his early life in a great measure prevail, and to enjoy many honors that at times were denied. "After life's fitful fever he sleeps well."

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[From the Easley Messenger.]

Many South Carolinians will be pained to learn of the death of this noble "old Roman," which occurred at his residence near Greenville on last Friday morning.

Governor Perry has been prominent in the State for a number of years, though latterly he has led a retired life. His opinions, however, have always been respected, for it was known that he was conscientious

in expressing them. Governor Perry was the provisional governor of this State immediately after the war, and did all he could to restore the peaceful condition which was our wont before these stormy times.

In his death the State has lost one of her ablest and most patriotic sons. Peace to his ashes.

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[From the Pickens Sentinel.]

Ex-Governor B. F. Perry died at his home near Greenville last Friday morning. His death closes a most eventful life, and the career of a great, pure and spotless statesman. A man of the greatest force of character, he won and retained the love of friends and respect and admiration of foes. The history of his life is singularly marked with the boldest independence of thought, and while he often found himself the only champion of his convictions, he lived to see the whole country acknowledge their wisdom and his bitterest opponents changed to his most ardent admirers. His name will add lustre to the history of his country as long as truth shall triumph over error.

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[From the Lancaster Review.]

The good man whose name forms the caption of this article died at his home on Friday last at an advanced age. Governor Perry was one of the most remarkable men who has ever figured in the politics of this State. He was wise, self-reliant, patriotic, and honest in all his public acts. He probably had more moral courage than any public man of his time. He was idolized at his home in Greenville, and was admired throughout the State, and, I must add, also abroad, for he had a national reputation to a considerable extent.

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[From the Greenwood Tribune.]

In the death of ex-Governor Perry, South Carolina has lost one of her purest and noblest sons. For many years he took a prominent part in all the affairs of State and immediately after the war was appointed provisional governor and did all in his power to restore her peaceful and prosperous condition. Mr. Perry has led a quiet and retired life for many years, but notwithstanding his opinions have been sought and respected by the public. Loved and honored in life he will not be forgotten in death.

[From the Orangeburg Times and Democrat.]

Governor B. F. Perry, of Greenville, S. C., died last Friday at his home near that city in the eighty-second year of his age. Governor Perry was a grand man, and has gone to the grave full of honors, leaving behind him a record that is worthy of emulation by all. We fully agree with the Columbia Register "that there was no more conscientious and patriotic citizen in all the State than he who now has been gathered to the fold of Carolina's great sons as they sleep beneath her soil."

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[From the Hampton Guardian.]

The whole State mourns the death of Hon. B. F. Perry, of Greenville, for he was one of our most prominent and useful men and of the highest ability. Long years ago he held many high positions and acquitted himself as a man. He was an ardent Unionist, and from the days of nullification he opposed the secessionists with might and main. * * As the peer of Hayne, Calhoun, McDuffie and Orr his name and his fame will live forever and embellish the pages of Carolina's history.

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[From the Winnsboro' News and Herald.]

The Hon. Benjamin Franklin Perry, ex-Governor of South Carolina, died at his home, near Greenville, on the third instant. He had been in declining health for some time, and had reached the advanced age of eighty-one years. His was a life of usefulness, both to the State and national government, and his name will occupy a bright page in the history of our grand old State.

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[From the Edgefield Chronicle.]

Ex-Governor B. F. Perry, who, from his earliest manhood to his death in honored old age, was one of the noblest and most notable men in South Carolina, died during the past week at his home in Greenville.

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[From the Walhalla Courier.]

Governor Perry was a fine specimen of manhood, and his long life was an unbroken record of manliness and candor. He was honest and unswerving in his political and business relations of life, and bound his friends to him everywhere by these golden cords.

The people of Oconee county were always especially interested in the success and prosperity of their distinguished fellow-citizen, and vied with each other in rendering honor to him in his gradual rise and success in public life. Now, that his long, useful life has ended, they will mourn his death, not only as a great public loss, but as one of a peculiarly interesting character and of a nature local to them.

The leisure moments of Governor Perry were occupied in rescuing from loss the history of many of the events of his time, and the reminiscences of a number of the public men of the country. He has done more than his share in the busy moments of a long life to rescue and preserve the history of the men and events of his time.

Enjoying the confidence and respect of the people of the State and throughout many of the States of the Union, his declining years were full of honor, love and peace. One of the greatest landmarks of the State has departed.

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[From the Aiken Recorder.]

The Hon. Benjamin Franklin Perry, ex-Governor of the State of South Carolina, died on Friday, December 3d, 1886, at his country residence, four miles from the city of Greenville, at the advanced age of eighty-one. His death was occasioned by valvular disease of the heart. Governor Perry was a man of fine ability, and during the course of his long life occupied many important positions of honor and trust, all of which he discharged with credit to himself and honor to the State.

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[From the Sumter Watchman.]

Governor B. F. Perry is dead. Born in the early youth of the century, he died in its sere and yellow leaf, honored by all who knew him for his commanding talents, his conspicuous honesty, and his unfaltering devotion to the welfare of his native Carolina. He was the central figure in up-country politics for many years before the war, and since then all the State has learned to love Greenville's greatest citizen.

Benjamin Franklin Perry was born in Pendleton District, November 20th, 1805. He had a remarkable mind, and made wonderful progress as a student. He was admitted to the bar in 1825; and from the time of nullification in 1832, became a prominent factor in politics. In his paper, the Greeenville Mountaineer, he fought disunion, and again in 1852 came to the front as a prominent anti-secession advocate. But when, despite his opposition, the State seceded in 1860, Governor

Perry, true patriot that he was, threw himself with all his ardor and influence into the battle for the independence of his State. His son, W. H. Perry, the present congressman from Greenville, was a most faithful soldier, going through the entire war as a member of Company K., S. C. C. Governor Perry was appointed provisional governor of the State in 1865, since which time he has lived in comparative political retirement.

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[From the Abbeville Medium.]

Governor Perry, who has been one of the most prominent men in the State, died at his home, near Greenville, on last Friday morning. For the last few years he has led a retired life, although his opinions when expressed, were always held in the highest esteem. Just after the war when our State was in a perfect uproar, he was appointed provisional governor, and did all in his power to restore peace to the troubled waters. Every one will regret the death of one of the State's worthiest sons and can only hope there will be more like him.

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[From the Spartanburg Herald.]

Governor B. F. Perry died at his home, Sans Souci, three miles from Greenville, on Friday morning. He was a pure patriot and an able statesman, and lived a life which reflects glory on his name and State.

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[From the Spartanburg Spartan.]

Hon. B. F. Perry died at his home, Sans Souci, near Greenville, Friday morning last, at half past one o'clock. About a month previous to his death he had an attack, and it was evident to his physicians that death might occur at any hour. He had a second attack, but had rallied from that and his family saw no cause for alarm. All of his children were present in his last sickness except Dr. Perry, who lives in Philadelphia. The funeral ceremonies were performed in the Episcopal church, and, by his request, in as simple and unostentatious a manner as possible. He was buried Sunday. For integrity and consistency of character he had few equals and no superiors in the State. His life was upright as his manly form. One might differ with him, but he was bound to respect him. He had the courage of his convictions and was not afraid to be in the minority. He felt it was

better to be right than to go with the multitude. He passed through several crises in our State's history that tried men's character and he was never found wanting, but was all true to his own convictions and to the best interests of the State. Noble, manly, independent, he stands out as an eminent example for our young public men to imitate.

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[From the Charleston Dispatch.]

According to his convictions he served his State with patriotic zeal and died universally lamented.

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[From the Charleston News and Courier.]

*To the Editor of the News and Courier*—Within this present month South Carolina has lost two of her most brilliant and distinguished sons. The newspapers contain merited tributes to their great worth, but little or nothing has been written of their religious character, which to many of their friends is a matter of deepest interest. It is well, too, for the world to know what these eminent lawyers, so skilled in examining and weighing evidence, thought of the religion of Christ.

Colonel Rion was for many years a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church and exemplified in his life the principles he professed. When you said in your editorial this morning: "What an upright man; what an acute counsellor; what a profound lawyer; what a faithful citizen; what a superb soldier; what a true friend and scholarly companion was he whose sudden and deplorable death is announced to-day," if you had only added "what a noble Christian gentleman," your eulogy would have been complete. You say "his end was peaceful." It could not be otherwise to the sincere Christian.

The lamented Governor Perry, who has so lately gone down to the grave full of years and full of honors, never made a public profession of religion, doubtless from that feeling of unworthiness which deters so many good men from taking that important step, but he was a zealous supporter of religion. For many years the writer of this saw him almost every Sunday at the head of his pew in Christ Church, Greenville. The deliberate and matured conviction of this grand "old Roman" was that Christianity was true, and, as the Greenville *News* says, "his conduct was conformed to the teachings of Christianity, in which he was a sincere and earnest believer." The first item in his last will and testament is as follows: "I give my soul to God, hoping

and trusting in His mercy through the mediation of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We humbly trust that his sins were forgiven and his pardon sealed in Heaven before he went hence, by and through the merits of that Redeemer in whom he thus expressed his faith and confidence.

W. H. C.

CHARLESTON, December 13.

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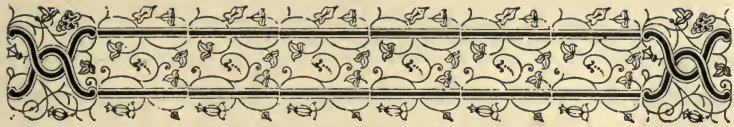
[From the Greenville Daily News]

*To the Editor of the News*—My father was an Englishman and settled when he came to this country in Columbia, S. C. During the days of nullification he, *with a very few others* in that district, (Richland) took the side of the union men. As a boy only nine years old I remember when the nullifiers marched up Main street, Columbia, to go out to Yates' old field and burn in effigy Blair and Drayton, members of congress from this State who adhered to Andrew Jackson and the Union. They passed our house while we were at prayers and played the Dead March.

My father, who was a merchant, was advised to alter or modify his opinions or else he would lose his customers. He refused to do so and he told me since that Governor Perry came to him and said: "I admire you for your pluck, and you will find your firmness will in the end bring you friends." It turned out so, for Colonel Wade Hampton, father of the present governor, and old Bob Adams, both strong nullifiers, came to him and said: "We are going hereafter to do our business with you," and they did until their death.

I write this to show how a man can live through all opposition and go down to his grave honored and respected, provided he is honest in his principles and lives up to his convictions of what he conceived to be right. Such a man, I believe, was Governor Perry.

COLUMBIA.



# LETTERS TO THE FAMILY.

The following are chosen from many scores of letters to the members of Governor Perry's family elicited by the announcement of his death:

GREENVILLE, December 7.

Dear Mrs. Perry—I was inexpressibly gratified by your note of yesterday and by the memento that accompanied it. You may be sure that I will always keep both as among my most valued possessions.

I wrote just as I felt. The more I have studied the Governor's character the more I have been impressed with its grandeur, until I have come to share fully the earnest admiration for him that I find among all classes of people, and particularly among the older men.

I need not tell you how cordially I participate in the universal deep sympathy felt for you and yours in your great trouble.

With great respect and very sincerely your friend,

A. B. WILLIAMS.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., 4th Dec., 1886.

My Dear Perry—This morning's paper brings us the sad intelligence of the death of your esteemed father, who closed a career honorable and eventful beyond the usual lot of public men in South Carolina. I felt, my dear friend, on reading of it how great the bereavement to your mother and yourself, who have continued as one of his immediate associates at the home circle; and the impulse came at once to write you how I sympathized with you in your sorrows.

For your lamented father, as a man firm in purpose, and of rare courage of conviction, and unselfish patriotism, I have always felt great admiration. He was of that type of conscientious statesmen who are so rare in these days of selfish politics; and the young men of South Carolina will find, in studying his career, lessons of self-sacrificing devotion and love of country well worthy of imitation by all.

I know, by a similar experience not many years ago, the greatness of

your loss; and while words of friends can do little to lighten the burden of filial grief, yet it is a melancholy satisfaction to offer condolence, and to let you know and feel that you have the sympathy of others in your sorrows.

May I also tender, through you, to your bereaved mother, the expression of my respectful and sincere condolence?

Remaining, as ever, very sincerely,

Your friend and colleague,

SAMUEL DIBBLE.

The HON. W. H. PERRY.

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NEW BRUNSWICK, December 5, 1886.

My Dear Cousin—When I had read your letter of 29th ult., I was prepared to learn at any moment the result of the relapse. Hope as I would or could, the case seemed hopeless. And the end has come. It was inevitable. It seems to us immutable. It always does to all, and it always will. We are all in distress and mourning, but we mourn not as "those without hope." We have the example of one who has passed through life without blame, and who has conscientiously and bravely performed every known duty. This is all a man can do, and he has done it faithfully and well, and all will acknowledge it. If the memory of all this could assuage the bitter grief at the death of our loved and honored ones, none would be more to be blessed than you. This is a comfort which in the future you will certainly enjoy. For the present sorrow and mourning must be yours. My sympathies are all with you, and I suffer with you all. May God bless you all and preserve and sustain you all. My wife and Cornelia join me in assurance of love for you all.

Affectionately, your cousin,

A. S. PERRY.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., December 7, 1886.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—This morning I read the account of Governor Perry's funeral, as published in the newspapers, and now write to you to express my sincere sympathy in your irreparable loss. His death was to me unexpected. I learned, through the papers, that he had a serious attack of illness a few weeks ago, but I hoped and believed that his strong constitution would successfully resist disease and that God would spare him to his family, friends and country.

His useful and eventful life over, he now rests from his labors. Truly it can be said of him, that he has gone down to the grave full of years and full of honors. Few have won merited success in a higher degree, and few indeed of those who have been in public life, and incurred bitter opposition, have retained, as he did, the respect of opponents. No one ever defamed his private character, for it was above reproach; and all gave him credit, not only for commanding talents, but for honesty of purpose, devoted patriotism and unflinching courage. He lived to see the great measures he advocated become the settled policy of the State. His love for the Union, which raised against him so much political enmity, was second to his love and devotion to South Carolina, and whatever he believed to be right and for the honor and prosperity of our beloved State he pursued with all the energies of his manly nature, for in such case—

> "To doubt would be disgraceful,
> To falter would be sin."

Thinking of Governor Perry carries me back to my earlier days when I first went to Greenville with letters of introduction to him and others, and well do I remember how kindly and hospitably he received me and how very pleasantly I was impressed with his dignity, courtesy and noble presence. But, unfortunately, the bitterness of political controversy estranged us for a time; although I could not but honor his character and respect his sincerity and ability. Then, with the inexperience of youth and full of enthusiasm for what I believed the honor and interests of the State required, I had not learned to bear patiently with those of opposing views. But time and experience and the grace of God have long since taught me that men may honestly differ, and also warned me against too great self-confidence, and brought a wider charity. After the close of the disastrous war against which Governor Perry so earnestly and eloquently warned, we were again brought into political harmony and personal friendship. Your dear husband was too magnanimous to remember former opposition, and when I left Greenville he was one of my best and most esteemed friends.

It has been nearly ten years since I last saw him. It was when I went to lay in Greenville soil the remains of my children, when his sympathizing nature brought him, though quite unwell at the time, to see me on that sad visit, and drew me nearer to him in the bonds of friendship.

My object in writing, dear Mrs. Perry, is not to eulogize the vir-

tues of your deceased husband. Let that be done by more gifted pens and more eloquent tongues; but I would pay my poor tribute to friendship and distinguished worth. I wish I could write a word that would bring to you the least comfort in your great bereavement. I can only pray that the God of all comfort will sustain you, and that this great affliction may yield to you "the peaceable fruits of righteousness."

We are now in the Advent season of our church when our thoughts are directed, in a great measure, to the promised second coming of our Lord, when his people look forward to reunion with those who have gone before them to the better land. It may not be long until he comes. Certainly it will not be very long until you and I will be called to meet Him and join our loved ones already in His presence. In the last day, may we appear before Him with our sins washed away by His precious blood that we may be found acceptable in His sight.

I am, dear Mrs. Perry, very sincerely yours,

W. H. CAMPBELL.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., December 7, 1886.

My Dear Friend—Your noble father, full of years and honors, has passed to his rest. How happy in the circumstances attending his closing years. How fortunate beyond measure, in that, even when he most opposed his friends his independence of mind, integrity of purpose and intrepidity of character should have fixed him more firmly in their esteem, and from his enemies extorted admiration, while perhaps increasing their animosity.

It would almost seem as if expressions of the natural sorrow which stir the hearts of relatives and friends should be hushed into thankfulness in contemplating the happy close of such a useful and well rounded life. Yet, knowing how deeply you and your widowed mother, his companion and solace through so many eventful years, must feel your great bereavement, I cannot forego the sad privilege of offering my sincere condolence and prayer that you may be sustained and comforted in your trouble by Him who is the stay of the widow and father of the fatherless.

Please remember me most kindly to all the family, and believe me your sincere friend.

JNO. S. FAIRLY.

MRS. WM. BEATTIE,
Sans Souci, Greenville, S. C.

GREENWOOD, S. C., December 9, 1886.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—I returned two days ago from an appointment in the country and learned of the sad bereavement that has befallen you. I am aware of our inability to do anything for those who sorrow as you do, but I feel that it will be some relief to myself to assure you of my heartfelt sympathy. I have had great admiration for Governor Perry. The example set by him to the rising generation of manliness, self-reliance, *devotion to principle* and high conceptions of honor is valuable. I wish I could do something to lighten for you this blow. Alas! how impotent we are. Human sympathy, though *sweet*, is unable to *sustain* in such a sorrow. Allow me to commend to you that Unseen Sympathizer whose sympathy is both sweet and sustaining. Who, while He pours the oil of comfort into the bleeding wound with one hand, at the same time places the other strong arm of support underneath the sinking spirit. You will find Him a present help in time of trouble. May He who is a father to the fatherless and the widow's God, provide for you in your necessities and comfort you in your sorrows. Mrs. Smart desires to join me in these expressions.

Yours, very respectfully,

R. D. SMART.

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CHRIST CHURCH RECTORY,
GREENVILLE, S. C., December 10, 1886.

My Dear Hext—The loss of your noble father is a great blow to you all, and you must feel it very keenly far away from your family.

But you have much, Hext, to comfort you in your sorrow. In God's providence your father had outlived his generation, all of his old friends and associates having gone before him. His old age was associated with no decay of his mind or weakening of his force of character; strong to the last, he sank into the grave with as much dignity as he had lived before his fellow men. But better, far better, and before *all*, he died in humility before God and in unpretentions faith in our only Saviour! I have been much impressed the past few years with the humility of your dear father when he would speak of his relations to God. I deplore the fact that he did not avow himself on the Lord's side, *in the Lord's way*, as a communicant of His church, but God knows what we cannot know, and He will be his judge.

I am satisfied that the long, manly, true life of your father was closed at last by a sincere surrender of his soul into the gracious hands of our merciful Saviour, and that his end was peace. May such re-

flections, my dear Hext, give you the consolations which God has promised to His people through the truth and grace of the everlasting Gospel. You have my heartfelt sympathy.

Most truly, your friend,

E. CAPERS.

DR. HEXT M. PERRY, Philadelphia.

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GREENVILLE, S. C., December 10, 1886.

Dear Mrs. Perry—I trust that the intimate and friendly relations which have long existed between myself and family, and you and yours, will furnish a sufficient apology for this seeming intrusion upon the sacred privacy of your great sorrow. I feel as if it would be a sad privilege to be permitted to say a word, on behalf of myself and those of my household, to mitigate even in some slight degree the poignancy of the grief which must afflict you in your recent sore bereavement.

My dear madam, permit me to suggest as a source of consolation, the consideration that Governor Perry had lived to a ripe old age, and sank to rest, "like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams." His life was a success. He achieved fortune and fame, and after long and useful life has left to his family the heritage of a pure and spotless name. I knew Governor Perry intimately for thirty years, and I can say, without any mental reservation, that I have never known any one who, in all the relations of life, exhibited so many noble qualities of head and heart. He was a devoted and indulgent husband and father, a loyal and faithful friend, a patriotic and incorruptible statesman, and an able and eloquent advocate. Take him all in all, we shall not look upon his like again.

Be assured, my dear madam, that you have the profound and sincere sympathy of myself and family in this the hour of your great sorrow.

Trusting that you will pardon the liberty I have taken in writing you this note, I remain, with sentiments of the highest regard,

Your friend,

T. Q. DONALDSON.

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CAMDEN, S. C., December 11th, 1886.

Dear Mrs. Beattie—After your valued favor of the 28th November, in which you seemed so greatly encouraged about the condition of your honored and revered father, I was greatly shocked by what so

soon followed. Since then I have been daily thinking of you all and desirous of writing you and Mrs. Perry a few lines of sympathy and condolence. You both know my great reverence for the Governor and my high esteem and friendship for him, and can readily understand how I must feel on this occasion, and I need not dwell upon that. Governor Perry examined me when I was admitted to the bar in December, 1843, and from that time always possessed my highest respect and regard. I served with him in the legislature from 1852 to 1856, and frequently encountered him in public and private life since, and can most truly say that I valued him more and more highly at every interview. We were not always together on political questions, but there never was a time when I did not admire the Governor for his patriotism, his ability, his fairness and directness of purpose, and his highly honorable and upright course upon all public issues. This was the testimony of all his honest opponents. I sincerely believe, fairly, a prince has fallen in Israel full of years and honor. He was about the last of all his compeers left to us, and it is most gratifying to those who knew and honored him, to find that the people of the State justly regarded him, as evidenced by the general outpouring of their feelings upon this mournful occasion. It is not my purpose to do more than express my personal appreciation and my sincere sympathy with Mrs. Perry and the family in their irreparable loss. May you all find comfort and solace from that only true source of consolation under great troubles.

I beg you to convey to Mrs. Perry the expression of my sympathy and most respectful regard, and believe me always,

Most respectfully and truly yours,

J. B. KERSHAW.

MRS. F. P. BEATTIE, Greenville, S. C.

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BELLEVUE, BOSSIER PARISH, LA.,
December 11, 1886.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—The paper sent me by Colonel Perry reached me last night, bringing the sad news of the death of your distinguished husband and my venerable friend, Governor Perry. I assure you that the news grieves me deeply. For Governor Perry I entertained the warmest friendship and admiration. His unfaltering and spotless career is a source of great solace and pride to his family and friends. He truly has left "footprints on the sands of time" that can but teach patriotism, honor and manliness to those coming after him through

the paths of life. His life is to Carolinians, wherever found, a part of the proud history of the old State.

Your household has my profound sympathy, but to you especially does my heart go out.

Believe me, Mrs. Perry, very sincerely,

Your friend,

WM. W. VANCE.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, December 12th, 1886.

Dear Mrs. Perry—I trust you will not deem it an intrusion if I venture to express the sympathy which I feel for you in your great sorrow.

Your husband's long and eventful career is one to which the people of South Carolina will always point with just pride as illustrating the highest devotion to duty and unswerving fidelity to every trust. Mingled with the grief which his death has caused, there is the comforting assurance that the example of such a life is a priceless legacy, not only to his family, but to the State he loved so well and served so faithfully. As one whose privilege it was to know your husband since my earliest boyhood, I beg to offer you the assurance of my sincere sympathy for you in your affliction.

Believe me, yours very truly and respectfully,

HUGH S. THOMPSON.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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SUMTER, S. C., Dec. 13, 1886.

Dear Mrs. Perry—It was with feelings of sorrow and regret I saw announced the death of your husband, Governor Perry. And while I felt deeply the loss that our State is called upon to bear in the death of one who was ever the true son and patriot, my heart's sympathies were with those of the stricken home—the wife of many, many years, and the sons and daughter, whose happy lot it was to have with them for so long a time a tender and affectionate father. And now, he has but gone before, at most a few short years, and we, too, shall be called to that other and better world. And while we mourn and feel broken-hearted, and realize at last that the companion of a life has been taken away, that his loved and loving voice will never again be heard on earth, that his noble form has passed from before our eyes,

across the river, let us look forward to a happy meeting on the other shore, where husband and wife, father and children, may in one unbroken band spend an eternity of bliss. May the kind Father of all send the comforting influences of His Spirit into each sorrowing heart, and give such comfort as to enable them to say, "the Lord doeth all things well."

Again expressing my heartfelt sympathy, I remain,

Very truly, your friend,

JNO. S. HUGHSON.

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"THE OAKS," 13th December, 1886.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—We mourn together. Your devoted and noble husband, my life-long friend, after long years of useful performance and patriotic devotion to his State, has preceded us across the river but a short time. I need not tell you that you have no more sympathizing friend. When I first came to the bar he was my friend, a valued adviser, and continued my friend through life. He has died after a long life, full of honors and virtuous performance.

God bless you and yours, and strengthen and support you in this affliction.

Respectfully and affectionately,

MRS. PERRY. A. P. ALDRICH.

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300 WEST FRANKLIN STREET,
RICHMOND, VA., December 13, 1886.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—To-day for the first time I learn of the great bereavement which has fallen upon you. I can measure somewhat the force of the blow, as those who have suffered can always appreciate the suffering of others; the chord of pain once struck in any bosom will not fail to vibrate again at the touch of sympathy. Ah! my dear friend, I knew your husband but slightly compared with the knowledge possessed by those who lived for years under the genial influence of his presence; but I yield to none in admiration of his splendid qualities, both as man and statesman. He came nearer to my ideal of a public man—a man of affairs—than any I have ever known. Massive the powers of his intellect; stalwart the soul of him; grandly faithful—a very tower of truth. His was a character the possession of which is an education to a community, a State, a country. In these times when a nascent degeneracy threatens to breed for us a puny people, it is something to have known such a man and to hold in one's memory a

figure of such noble proportion. You have for a time lost *him*, but you have not lost the solacing comfort which his greatness reflects. Surely of him the engraver can carve with truth upon the stone which marks his final resting place: "The world is better that he lived."

I know that in your loneliness there is a pleasure, sad but sweet, in musing on the memory of what he was, and the proud consolation is yours that he gave you a name which he never tarnished, but which he splendored with the sunlit glories of nobility, fidelity and truth.

Better consolations are yours, for the earth-born can never equal the heavenly.

May the peace of God be on you, and the consolation of the Gospel of His Son your strong support. I ask of Him who ruleth over all, to manifest Himself to you as the God of the widowed, and that He will make proof to you of the everlasting truth of His promise: "As thy day is so shall thy strength be."

As for me, I can only tell you that my soul is stricken, and my sympathy for you goes out strongly from an unfeigned heart.

Affectionately, your friend,

H. M. JACKSON.

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OFFICE OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION,
COLUMBIA, S. C.

My dear Madam—Will you allow me, as an old friend, and an ardent admirer of your father, to offer to you and the family a word of sympathy. His death has called forth expressions of sorrow from every quarter. To those unacquainted with his character it may seem singular that so much is said about the loss of one who had lived out the fullness of his days on earth. But in these days of degeneracy he was a great beacon light to young men. With him always "public office had been a public trust." Though Cleveland formulated the idea in words, your father formulated it in his life. Honesty, courage—personal and political—and elevated patriotism were condeded to him by political enemies even in the stormiest periods of his life.

Is it any wonder then that South Carolina mourns? The grandest figure amongst her sons has passed away. Since the announcement my mind has been running along the incidents of his life that passed directly under my own eye. In any place, in all the varying circumstances that I saw him, he bore himself as became a man of the purest and highest type. I love my State more that she bore such a son, and I am sure no one of her children ever was more devoted to her wel-

fare. I could write of such things at great length, but I forbear. I only indicate them to show my profound personal regard for the dead. It does not become me to enter the sacred circle of domestic grief. You have, I am sure, sadly stricken hearts, but you have also the consolations of our blessed religion Your family have long known and been acquainted with grief.

I saw a few days since lying on my table a little memorial to "Anna Perry," sent at the time to my mother. Its sweet but sad memories are revived as her father and yours passes to the skies. There are other afflictions more recent which I need not recount. I only, my dear friend, commend you to the care of the God of the fatherless and the widow, and trust and believe these afflictions may be sanctified to your entire household. Do present my smypathy to your mother and your household.

Very truly and respectfully,

JAMES H. RICE.

MRS. WM. BEATTIE.

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WASHINGTON, December 16, 1886.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—It was not until my arrival here, only a day or two ago, that I learned of the heavy affliction which you have met with, and the great loss which our State has sustained in the death of your distinguished husband. No human consolation can avail anything in sorrow such as yours, and you will turn to Him who alone can give it. All that I can venture to do is to offer my heartfelt sympathy for you, and to express, in common with all who knew Governor Perry, my profound admiration for his character and my sincere grief for his loss.

With my best wishes for yourself, I am, my dear madam,

Very respectfully and sincerely,

Your friend,

MRS. B. F. PERRY. WADE HAMPTON.

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AIKEN, S. C., January 3, 1887.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—I cannot tell you how deeply I have felt for you in your recent bereavement. To be forever separated from the dearest companion of your life is the greatest trial that could befall you, and with you I know the loss is peculiarly severe, for your life has been one of true and unselfish devotion to the Governor, who, in his turn (as he did in all capacities in life), filled to the fullest measure

the part of husband. You who have known him best will miss more than any his companionship. I know that I can say nothing that can allay your sorrow, but write to offer my sincere sympathy to you in this the greatest bereavement that could befall you. God grant you strength and spirit to bear your loss, and spare you all further sorrow, and make peaceful the years that I trust are still left to you.

Governor Perry's life is one of deep interest, and to be followed as a high example. I have known him from my earliest youth, and afterwards intimately, and have ever appreciated him as one whose life was marked by exalted honesty and purity of character, and possessing the sternest of virtues, and with all kind, thoughtful and considerate. I have never known a man whose conviction of right was as strong as his, or who had the independence and manhood to stick to principles so steadfastly because he thought them right. And at the end of a long and eventful political life he had the satisfaction of holding the confidence and esteem of his country, and to realize that all the efforts of his life were right, and many measures of reform that he had so long advocated now accomplished benefits to the people of his State, who have fully appreciated his wisdom.

As one who admired him I take great satisfaction that he was spared to see all this, for their can be no higher merit at the end of our life, than to possess the confidence and esteem of your fellow man. The State has indeed lost one of her strongest sons, and a truer patriot never lived. I have five little boys, and if they should be spared to me I shall point them as a most worthy example to be followed, the life of my honored friend.

I thank you very much for the papers you sent me containing a sketch of the Governor's life. I have filed them for preservation.

Do present my kind regards and sincere sympathy to the members of your family, and for yourself, dear madam, accept my deepest feelings of sorrow and sympathy.

Believe me, as ever, your attached friend,

GEORGE W. CROFT.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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COLUMBIA COLLEGE,
NEW YORK, January 7, 1887.

My Dear Cousin Fannie—I am sure you do not think that my silence toward you since the sad news of your father's death signifies that you have not been very often in the minds and mouths of us all. We talk of you very often, and we feel very deeply for you in your bereave-

ment; and we regret very keenly the distance separating us, which prevents us from expressing to you in person our sorrow that so good and noble a man has been taken away.

You can not imagine how great was my father's delight when he first found out the near relationship existing between your family and ours and how eagerly he longed to meet Governor Perry. It was a very bright glow of sunshine after the twilight of his life had already set in; and when you came North and visited us in New Brunswick, as when also he was so hospitably received in Philadelphia by your brother, his happiness was unbounded. His hopefulness is always so great that I do not think he wholly despaired of seeing his newly found cousin until the sudden end of your father's life made it impossible in this world. He never fails to talk of him and of you whenever we go to New Brunswick. You may be quite sure that your stay in New Brunswick was a rare bright spot in his old age.

It was a most kind and charming letter that your father wrote him—the last one, he told me, that Governor Perry ever penned. I copied it carefully for him, and he said he intended returning the original to your mother, which I dare say he has done ere this.

I must acknowledge also the receipt of the Charleston paper, which you were so thoughtful as to send me. The account of your father's life was most interesting. He was a man of the rarest uprightness and courage. I think his firm stand for the anti-secession cause, even when he found himself quite alone in his views, was one of the bravest things I ever heard of.

A friend of mine here, Mr. William Pomroy, who has been in Charleston a great deal, told me he knew your father very well, and that that was the impression his character and personality had always made upon him.

It would give us great pleasure to hear from you when you find an opportunity of writing, and we trust that we may hear only favorable accounts of you all. I beg you will have the goodness to present our respects to your mother, whom may we some day have the privilege of meeting, and no less to your brothers; and please accept a very affectionate greeting from us, i. e., my wife and myself, who claim to be really very old friends, though unaccountably separated from you throughout a term of years, now, we rejoice to say, at an end. I am, very sincerely,

Your affectionate cousin,

EDWARD DELAVAN PERRY.

MRS. WILLIAM BEATTIE,
Greenville, S. C.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 13, 1887.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—I should have thanked you sooner for your kind letter and the papers you sent but for the fact that I was quite unwell for a few days. The papers came safely, and I assure you that I was greatly gratified and deeply touched by the kind though partial words of your noble husband in vindication of myself and in praise of my honored father. Words of praise from him are worth much, and to have won his friendship should be thought an honor by any one. I certainly so regard it, and I reciprocated his friendly feelings to the fullest extent, for his character commanded respect from his opponents and admiration and affection from his friends. I shall, with your permission, retain the papers you so kindly sent, and I should be very glad to have one other of the vindication if you can furnish it.

I see your son constantly, for I am happy to look upon him as a valued friend and comrade.

With my best wishes and kindest regards, I am,

Very respectfully and truly yours,

WADE HAMPTON.

MRS. PERRY.

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LAURENS, S. C., January 24, 1887.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—Accept my sincere thanks for a copy of the tribute to your noble husband, the late Hon. B. F. Perry. It was my privilege to know him in my early manhood. At various periods it was my privilege to be associated with him more or less intimately, officially and otherwise. The exalted estimate of his character which I inherited increased the more I saw of him. I am familiar with several of the ordeals of which mention is made. All that is said of him historically is true; and all that is said of him personally is just. There is not a word of eulogium to which he is not justly entitled. His was an active, useful and honorable life which deserves to be preserved in an enduring form for the youth of our State. Our young men can have no higher standard, and to them his more detailed biography would be a rich legacy.

With heartfelt sympathy in your sore bereavement, I am

Your friend and servant,

JAMES FARROW.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

# ACTION

OF THE

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OF

# SOUTH CAROLINA.

The State Senate was not in session on Saturday, December 4th, when the announcement of Governor Perry's death was made.

In the House Mr. Ansel, of Greenville, said:

Mr. Speaker—Upon the wings of the lightning the sad intelligence has just been received that the late distinguished and highly esteemed Benjamin Franklin Perry, of Greenville, is no more. He has gone to that bourne from whence no traveler returns. Being more than four score years of age, and having been for a great many years in public life in this State and the Nation, I think it but due to the memory of this great and good man that we should pause in our deliberations for a short while to pay our respects to his many virtues.

He was for more than twenty years during the early and middle part of his life a distinguished member and leader of the house of representatives of this State, and his course while a member of this honorable body has been the admiration and praise of all. One of the many acts which he did as a member of that body was the selection of the place where the capitol building now stands.

Since that time he has held many honorable positions given him by the people of his native State. Once he held the office of judge, once elected United States senator from the State of South Carolina, and once the Governor of this grand old Commonwealth of ours; and though he was not allowed to hold his seat in the United States senate by reason of the political sentiment prevailing in the North at and after the time of his election to this honored position, it shows the high

esteem in which he was held, and ever has been held, by the people of this State and country.

As governor of the State of South Carolina, his every act was for the best interests of his native State, and the nature and the ability and integrity which characterized his administration of that office is part of the history of the State, known by all, which will go down on its pages to the everlasting glory and honor of his name.

But time forbids, Mr. Speaker, my detailing the many virtues and good qualities of this great and good man. I could not refrain, however, in this presence from asking that the business of this house might stop for a short time, in order that we may place one flower upon the bier of our departed friend, and, looking at him as he shall pass down into the grave and be gathered to his fathers, say: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

Mr. Speaker, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Benjamin Franklin Perry, I move you, sir, that this house do now adjourn.

At the conclusion of the remarks of Mr. Ansel, of Greenville, in announcing to to the House of Representatives of South Carolina the death of the Hon. B. F. Perry, one of the ex-governors of this State, and after the reading of the resolutions appropriate to the occasion, Mr. Hamilton, of Chester, arose and spoke as follows:

Mr. Speaker—It is only since taking my seat in this House to-day that I have been made aware of the death of Ex-Governor B. F. Perry, an event, it is true, at his advanced age, we have all known could not be long postponed, but which nevertheless we are permitted to deplore as a great public loss.

It is not necessary, Mr. Speaker, to give any sketch of the circumstances of the private life or public career of Governor Perry, for by the enterprising forethought of the News and Courier in its issue of to-day we are furnished with all it is necessary to know on that head. I shall therefore confine myself to an allusion to his peculiar characteristics, which distinguished him from the general run of men, and lifted him to a place among the very few who are possessed of the rare gift of a lofty moral courage and a fearless intellectual bravery.

It has been remarked that there are comparatively few men who think for themselves, and more especially on public affairs, and whose utterances make up public opinion. In large cities it has come to pass that newspapers to a great extent do the thinking of the people, and in smaller and more remote communities there are certain leading minds to which it is given to guide the current of opinion. But even

with this small class are often found those who temporize and often shrink from their conviction and abandon opposition in order to sail before a popular breeze. Governor Perry was cast in a different mould from any such. He thought for himself; he had strong convictions, and he dared always to own them in any presence and before any audience. He came first into public notice in the memorable nullification contest. The advocates of that extreme remedy for our differences with the Federal Government numbered in their ranks, as the active leaders, John C. Calhoun, Robert Y. Hayne, George McDuffie, James Hamilton and Stephen B. Miller—an array of statesmen, orators, and men of action unsurpassed in their respective excellences, and formidable indeed to encounter in opposition. It was natural for the young men of South Carolina to follow such leaders in a contest, particularly alluring as challenging a conflict with the general government, and it may safely be said that nine-tenths of them were rallied under the banner of the nullification party.

To confront such opponents had no terrors for Benjamin F. Perry, a young man only starting forth in life. In his newspaper, on the stump, and everywhere, he boldly advocated the cause he had espoused, and although defeated on that particular issue yet he came out of the contest unscathed and unterrified, and by his fearless and honorable course gained for himself the honorable admiration and esteem of the great men whose opinions and actions he had combatted so manfully.

It was not unnatural for Union men of the South to be earnest for the reconstruction of the States, and there were not a few of them caught by the idea of "accepting the situation" who were hurried into the republican party, and too late to retreat were overwhelmed by the disgrace and obloquy which attached to the Southern government of that day.

Governor Perry was deeply enlisted in the scheme proposed by President Johnson to reconstruct the State of South Carolina and the other Southern States, but upon the passage of the reconstruction measures and the military usurption of Sickles and Canby, every instinct of his brave nature and his love of civil liberty was aroused, and until that invasion of our right finally disappeared with the inauguration of President Cleveland, there was no more hostile opponent of republican men and measures than he was.

Governor Perry's last connection with public affairs was in 1872. A convention assembled in the fall of that year in this city, of which I was myself a member; he was unanimously nominated to contest the Fourth Congressional District against A. S. Wallace. It was hoped by

running a pronounced Union man, in addition to the democratic majorities in Greenville and Spartanburg, we might supplement them by a majority in York and reduction of the republican vote in the other counties, and by that means we might elect him. His most excellent conservative speeches, however, failed of effect, and our relief was postponed for four years more, when the bugle call of Hampton aroused us to action. Since then Governor Perry has lived in retirement at his country seat near Greenville.

Mr. Brawley, of Charleston, said:

Mr. Speaker—I have been so occupied this morning that I did not read the newspaper, and until the gentleman from Greenville addressed the Chair I did not know that a great loss had fallen upon the State, for although in "the white winter of his age," and for some time withdrawn from active participation in public affairs, the death of Governor Perry will be felt everywhere throughout the State as a public calamity.

I regret very much, Mr. Speaker, that I have not the gift of speaking aptly upon occasions like this without preparation, and that I have not had time to prepare such fit words as are due to the memory of this distinguished citizen. I regret it all the more because I represent here a constituency which in times past was not in accord with those ideas and principles of which Governor Perry was one of the most conspicuous advocates, and yet I feel that I would not truly represent that constituency if I failed to express upon this mournful occasion the sentiment of profound respect for his character and memory there entertained, and, therefore, I must add my voice to the general lamentation and pay tribute to his memory.

It is not to be expected that upon this sudden call I can do justice to a character which had many elements of greatness and it would not accord with the "fitness of things" that I should indulge in indiscrminating eulogy. I cannot speak of him from much personal knowledge, as I saw him mainly from a distance, but I always admired that rugged independence of character and opinions which lifted him above the lead of common men as distinctly as do the mountains, near which he dwelt, stand out from the plain.

He was a man of strong individuality, and probably of strong dislikes, but he was likewise a man of strong and earnest patriotism, and although his State was led into courses against his wishes and judgment, he never wavered in his devotion to her.

He was in the highest sense of the word a patriot, and, therefore, it is most fitting that we, who are for the time being the representatives of the State which he loved and served during a long and useful life, should pause in our work here and pay respect to his memory. The name and fame of such a man is a precious heritage, and we should so testify.

He lived in a time of great events and was a conspicuous actor in them. Called to high station in a time of great adversity he bore himself with dignity, and then and ever he was true and steadfast as those mountains beneath the shadow of which he now rests. His fame, like them, is fixed in the earnest stillness of eternity.

Mr. Haskell, of Richland, said :

Mr. Speaker—I regret that the first news that I have of Governor Perry's death is the resolution which I ask to second, for I feel that I can, unprepared as I am, but ill express the feelings of my constituents, or my own. Yet I would ill represent my constituents if I failed to join as best I can in the expressions of sympathy for the family of Governor Perry, and of praise for the service which he has done by his pure life and earnest work for the State he has served so long and so well. It has been truly said by those who have preceded me that Governor Perry throughout his life displayed always an utter fearlessness in opposing the will of majorities, no matter how great, when his judgment did not approve, and this most notably in the almost unaided opposition which for many years he offered to those who advocated a disruption of the Union.

All they have said is true, but it seems to be that higher praise than this is due to this distinguished citizen. Any one can oppose, but it is of few, even in history, that it can be said that they openly, constantly and defiantly opposed the enthusiastic will of a great majority of their fellow-citizens, without ever losing at any time their respect and confidence. Yet none will deny that this can be truly said of him who we now seek to honor. To oppose secession, either alone or with the other slave-holding States, was in South Carolina regarded as unpatriotic, if not traitorous; and yet Governor Perry, an avowed Union man under all circumstances, had the warm esteem of those who knew him, and the confidence of the people at large who knew him by his acts and reputation.

When finally the war against which he had struggled came upon us, there was no citizen of the State more earnest in his efforts to bring it to a successful issue and none who more willingly contributed to its

prosecution. This caused no surprise, for his whole life had made the people of this State expect nothing less from him under all circumstances than the fullest performance of every duty of a patriotic citizen.

Governor Perry impressed his views and policy upon what is now the most prosperous section of this State to an extent that would have marked him as an extraordinary man had he performed nothing else. Here in the capital of the State, he was chiefly known before the war as the Unionist opposing what nearly all our people believed to be the best interests of the State. They next knew him as the reconstruction governor appointed by the President of United States, who the people still regarded as our enemy.

In this office we quickly learned to know him as one who took office only that he might serve his State without a thought of self-glorification or personal reputation or profit, and the city of Columbia and Richland county joins with her whole heart in seconding the resolution in honor of him who as a citizen was upright and patriotic; as a statesman, wise to foresee danger, earnest in his effort to avert it, brave and constant in resisting it when it came; and when it culminated in disaster, untiring and undismayed in earnestly striving by precept and example to repair the ruin and bring back prosperity to his State, to which the best efforts of his long and active life were devoted.

After remarks by Colonel John C. Haskell, of Richland, on motion of Mr. Ansel, seconded by Mr. Simpson, of Laurens, the house adjourned in respect to Governor Perry's memory.

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

# GREENVILLE BAR.

On the 11th of December, 1886, there was a called meeting of the bar of Greenville, at which almost every member was present.

Colonel G. F. Townes was elected chairman and D. P. Verner secretary.

In taking the chair Colonel Townes announced the purpose of the meeting to be to consider the action to be taken regarding the death of the leader of the bar, the late Governor B. F. Perry. He said:

Gentlemen of the Greenville Bar—To render due tribute to departed friends, and to express sorrow for their loss, is an instinct of our common humanity, stirring the most pathetic emotions of the heart. But when one of eminent merit, especially identified with a professional circle, is removed by death, the surviving members feel the loss most deeply, and are fond to recall the remembrance of the noble qualities and honorable career of the distinguished dead and to give some utterance to the sentiments such remembrance inspires. The death of ex-Governor Benjamin Franklin Perry is to us, an event sorrowful indeed and most profoundly regretted. We greatly esteemed him for his virtues. His was a life unstained by intemperance uncontaminated by licentiousnesss. We admired his high character, conspicuous for ability and integrity, not only as a lawyer, but as a man, a citizen, public servant, and true patriot. His memory will last. The influence of his example, the good he has done, is not "interred with his bones." He never swerved from what he believed to be the right. Even when in a minority, breasting the storms of political strife, earning a national as well as a State reputation, he so bore himself that his opponents respected him, and every one, even those with whom political questions had produced quarrels or estrangement, when the calm came were again his personal friends and admirers. He reciprocated their feelings and met them more than half way. As age advanced, he

gathered more and more troops of friends, and has died without an enemy in either of the old political parties, now happily merged in one.

Governor Perry was faithful as a friend, and a delightful companion. He excelled in entertaining conversation. He possessed an extensive knowledge of history, European and American. I have never met any one who appeared to me so familiar with the characters and incidents connected with the lives of the remarkable personages who have lived in the past and present century, especially those of his own country and the British Kingdom. His memory was a very encyclopedia of the events and prominent men belonging to the history of his own State, from the earliest colonial times to the present. He was my senior at the bar, but I stood next to him. He was my oldest associate and friend. I shall miss him more than I can express. Indeed, we may all say in regard to him, as Henry Clay said in his noble tribute to Calhoun, uttered in the United States senate chamber: "Who can fill the great void his death has left us?"

On motion of Colonel J. W. Stokes, a committee of three was appointed to draw and present suitable resolutions. The committee consisted of Colonel Stokes, T. Q. Donaldson and Captain C. M. Furman. The members retired and subsequently returned and presented the following:

WHEREAS, it has pleased God in His infinite wisdom to call from time to eternity, full of years and honors, the distinguished and honored leader of the Greenville bar, Governor Benjamin Franklin Perry, who for a period of half a century or more illustrated in an eminent degree the ability, dignity and courtesy of the profession; and whereas we desire to place upon record our high appreciation and admiration of his noble qualities of head and heart as exhibited in all the relations of life—domestic, civil, political and professional; therefore,

"*Resolved*, That in the death of Governor Benjamin Franklin Perry, his family have lost a devoted and indulgent husband and father; the community a useful, valued and eminent citizen; the State a wise, patriotic and incorruptible public servant, and the bar a learned, able and fearless advocate, who by his integrity and great ability justly occupied a commanding position among the most distinguished lawyers of the State.

"*Resolved*, That this bar deeply sympathize and sincerely condole with the family of the distinguished deceased in their sad bereavement and great loss.

"*Resolved*, That as a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased the members of this bar will wear the usual badge of mourning for thy days.

"*Resolved,* That the chairman of this meeting present the preamble and these resolutions to the presiding judge at the next term of the circuit court for Greenville and request him to have them recorded upon the journal of the court.

"*Resolved,* That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted by the secretary of this meeting to the family of the deceased, and that the city newspapers be requested to publish them."

Mr. T. Q. Donaldson said:

Mr. Chairman—I rise to second the resolutions just offered, and in doing so, I confess to some degree of embarrassment, not so much for want of something to say as to decide what should be left unsaid in the limited time which it would be proper to occupy on an occasion like this.

It has been but a few short months, Mr. Chairman, since the members of the Greenville bar had occasion to come together in their hall to do honor to the memory of one of their number who had been stricken down in the maturity of manhood. We are now assembled to perform a like service to the memory of one who lived out the full measure of his days, and who gently sank to rest, "Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him and lies down to pleasant dreams."

I knew Governor Perry intimately for a period of thirty years; for the greater portion of this time we were near neighbors, residing on opposite sides of the street. I had peculiarly favorable opportunities of observing him in all the relations of life, to which reference has been made in the resolutions, and can say without mental reservation, and with entire sincerity, that all that has been said of him in these resolutions is strictly and literally true. He was devotedly attached to his home and family and a kinder and more indulgent husband and father I have never known. He greatly enjoyed the society of his friends and neighbors, and felt a keen and lively interest in whatever contributed to the prosperity and well being of the community in which he lived.

When I first came to Greenville Governor Perry was at the zenith of his career as a lawyer, and was engaged on one side of every cause of importance which came before the courts of the western circuit (as it was then known) comprising the counties of Greenville, Spartanburg, Laurens, Anderson and Pickens. He was a peer of the ablest lawyers who practiced in that circuit, which could boast of some of the most eminent men of the State. No lawyer ever prepared his cases with more care nor fought them with more ability and persistence.

No client of his ever had just cause to complain that his case was neglected. His character for honesty and integrity and his great ability as a lawyer made him almost irresistible before juries, especially of Greenville county, with whom his name was a tower of strength.

Governor Perry was remarkable for his industry and devotion to his profession, and as a result he always enjoyed a lucrative practice. At the same time it may be said that he was not a mere attorney, as too many of our profession are, but a jurist as well, and thoroughly imbued with a knowledge of the law as a science. He was also fond of reading general literature, and had accumulated, during his long life, one of the largest and most select miscellaneous libraries in the State. Governor Perry was one of the comparatively few public men of the State who achieved a national reputation, and his name will always be associated with those of her most eminent statesmen. His public life was a peculiarly eventful one. He lived in the most exciting period of the State's history, and was a conpicuous actor in all the important political events which agitated the country from 1832 on the great issue between the State and General Government, which finally resulted in civil war. He held views opposed to those of a majority of the leading men of the State, and to this fact may doubtless be attributed his failure of promotion to high federal position until the latter part of his life.

No one possessed in a higher degree than Governor Perry the courage of his convictions, and no one was less deterred from following them when once he had determined as to the proper course to pursue, and he had the satisfaction, before his death, of seeing the wisdom of his course with reference to most vital political issues approved.

Nature had cast Governor Perry in a large mould physically and mentally. No one ever saw him for the first time who was not impressed with the fact that he was no ordinary man. His life was a success. He achieved fame and fortune, and "full of days and honors" has been gathered to his Father, leaving to his family the priceless heritage of a pure and spotless name, and to the members of the bar an example worthy of their emulation.

Mr. John W. Stokes said:

Mr. Chairman—We are gathered here to-day to mingle our voices in honor of the distinguished leader of this bar, and to cast our garlands, gathered and perfumed from memory's casket, upon the tomb in which he lies near his darling children—precious jewels, who years ago, like sweetest, brighest flowers nipped by an untimely frost, faded away forever.

In the death of Governor Benjamin Franklin Perry the State of South Carolina, loved and honored so much by him, has lost one of her purest men and most useful and highly distinguished citizens. Full of years and full of honors and with a name written in immortal characters across more than half a century of his country's history, that grand old Roman has gone to rest and is taking his last sleep in the bosom of his native land and in the city where he achieved so many brilliant triumphs as an advocate in the forum.

As a patriot he was ardent and devoted, sincere and unselfish. With all the fervor of his great heart he loved his country for his country's sake and stood by her with heroic courage, whether she was right or wrong. Never faltering for her weal, he was always ready to make any sacrifice, however great, to advance her welfare and prosperity, or to shield, protect and defend her against wrong, injustice and oppression. In this zeal, love and fidelity to her the language of his great heart was millions for defence but not a cent for tribute. And when the heated controversies over vexed questions as to what course his country should pursue were terminated, he allowed no bitterness towards his opponents to linger in his bosom, but actuated by his generous, forgiving nature, he freely and readily forgave all past differences between himself and his countrymen.

As a stateman, he was broad, bold, courageous and progressive, and ranked as such among the great and distinguished luminaries of our country. No one of his cotemporaries had a clearer conception or understood better than he did, the spirit and genius of our republican institutions; the organic law of both the State and Federal governments—the powers conferred by the States upon the general government and those reserved by the States to themselves. All of the great questions and measures that have sprung up and agitated the general government from its organization to the present time were familiar with him. The alien and sedition laws; the Missouri compromise; the slavery questions; the tariff; bank of the United States; internal improvement by the general government; the Munroe doctrine; the immunity of our ships from search upon the high seas; nullification; secession, and reconstruction were closely examined, thoroughly scrutinized, accurately analyzed, and perfectly mastered by him. When surrounded by a group of his genial friends it was a rich, intellectual treat to hear him, with his wonderful conversational powers, review any of these great national questions and the lives of the patriots and sages who engaged in their discussion in the congress of the United States, and the name of Governor Perry as a wonderfully

gifted statesman will go down the ages in the history of our country with the names of Calhoun, McDuffie, Hayne and other illustrious men.

In the meridian of his legal career Governor Perry was regarded, both by the bench and the bar, as one of the ablest lawyers and most powerful advocates in the State. At that time the western circuit was distinguished for its able lawyers—Judge Wardlaw, Judge Whitner, Armstead Burt, Henry C. Young, James Edward Henry and General Waddy Thompson, besides some other distinguished men, practiced law at the Greenville bar—and Governor Perry was then, certainly, the peer and equal in legal learning and forensic ability of any of those great lawyers. He was then engaged on the one side or the other, in every important case, both civil and criminal, which came before the court at this place. Among the many great State trials in which he was engaged was the celebrated Gardner case, the hearing of which occupied the court for several months at Washington city. And assisted by Judge Wardlaw and Hon. Armstead Burt, Governor Perry defended the Hon. William L. Yancey when he was arraigned at the bar, at Greenville, charged with murder, and whose trial terminated in a verdict of manslaughter. He was sentenced to fine and imprisonment, and Governor Noble remitted both of these in a few weeks. He was a bold and fearless, a terse and perspicuous writer. His editorials in the old Mountaineer, and afterwards in the Patriot and Mountaineer, his biographical sketches or reminiscences of distinguished men, his extensive contributions to the periodical literature of the country and his written speeches for special public occasions, were anxiously sought for, and eagerly read and carefully preserved by the best scholars of the country.

As a citizen, he was a model worthy of imitation. He was always frank, generous and sincere in his intercourse and dealings with mankind and uniformly just and polite. He loved his friends, was an examplar of virtue, scorned a mean act, and was one of nature's noblest workmanship—an honest man.

He tranquilly met death and ended life's journey on Friday morning, the third day of December, 1886, at San Souci, his beautiful home and seat of elegant hospitality, in sight of mountain crags, sparkling brooks and shining river. And the large and commanding form of that wonderfully gifted and highly intellectual and scholarly man lay in state in his spacious library hall, filled with tomes and volumes of choice and elegant books, which seemed like silent sentinels to watch over his remains until Sunday, December fifth, when he was borne

hither to the cemetery by a host of sorrowing, sympathizing friends, who laid him gently down, with bleeding hearts and briny tears, in his new made grave to take his last long repose.

He has gone forever from us, and, in all probability, in the noble qualities of head and heart and the brilliant record of a useful and honorable life, we will never see his like again.

Mr. C. M. Furman said :

It is so much the custom to praise the dead, that occasions like the present are too often but empty ceremonies, in which the desire to please the living by cheap laudation of the departed is the chief motive. And hence, what is said on such occasions is very often regarded as a mere sentimental outburst—the glowing picture having no counterpart in the life or character of him who is represented. But on this occasion there is no room for empty words. Should any one attempt to portray the man who has fallen among us so as to do justice to the great subject, he would find matter to his hand, crowding upon him in such abundance as to transcend the limits by which we are circumscribed.

I shall attempt no such undertaking—it is needless. You all know the man. He stood amongst us like some grand old oak, erect, with wide spreading boughs, conspicuous to all observers. And now, that he has fallen, we feel as never before the largeness of the space he filled.

The illustrious deceased was possessed, in a most remarkable degree, of three traits of characters rarely seen combined in the same person. He was a man of tireless *energy*. He fought his way to the top. With an industry that never flagged he mastered his profession and became a great lawyer, and not content with this, he turned his vigorous mind to the difficult study of politics and became a great statesman. No labor was too protracted or too severe for him. The end of the race, however long, he always reached triumphantly. He fought with fate and conquered circumstances by resolute endurance. He was a man of high *courage*. In his earlier career his convictions placed him in a position antagonistic to the great majority of the strong men who were around him. But he was not the man to count the number of his opponents. He never lowered his lance because their battalions thickened. Though, like all patriotic men, he loved the approval of his countrymen, yet he dared to differ and bore their condemnation in the calm consciousness of his own purity of purpose. In his later political life, when violence had usurped the seat of law, and a corrupt

tyranny had supplemented right and justice, his voice arose, defiantly denouncing wrong and inspiring his people with fresh hope and courage. He was a man of absolute *integrity.* Many men possessed of the first mentioned qualities are found wanting in this. The profession of the law, the political arena, present special temptations to men of feeble conscience, and too often men whose intellectual gifts lift them above their fellows are morally wrecked through the opportunities thus offered. But no breath of suspicion ever stirred against him. "His enemies themselves being judges"—his character was not only "sans peur" but "sans reproche." While others were blown about by the gusts of popular feeling and set their sails subserviently to catch whatever wind might blow, he, despising the acts of the time server and the sycophant alike, held steadily on his course, and having faced manfully the duties of life, he has reached at last, in honor and good report with all men, the haven of eternal rest.

Such a life needs no commentary. It is a lesson to us all. It is of more value than precept or exhortation, it is a stimulus to noble living, and as such let us cherish its memory as a heritage of richest value.

The resolutions were adopted unanimously by a rising vote and the meeting adjourned.

# PROCEEDINGS

IN THE

# COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

GREENVILLE, APRIL 6TH, 1887.

At the opening of the Court of Common Pleas on Wednesday, April 6th, Colonel G. F. Townes addressed Judge Fraser and presented the resolutions adopted by the Greenville bar in honor of the late Governor Perry, in performance of the duty assigned him by his brethren. He asked that they be recorded on the journal of the court, and moved for adjournment as a mark of respect for the deceased, following his motion with brief but appropriate and feeling remarks.

The motion was seconded by John R. Bellinger, M. F. Ansel, J. A. Mooney, Judge J. S. Cothran and Julius H. Heyward.

Mr. Bellinger said :

May it please your Honor—In this temple of justice, where the illustrious dead was wont so oft to stand in defence of the rights of his fellow-countrymen, it is fit that the business of the court should stop, that we should pause in the discharge of our duties, to pay a deserved tribute to the memory of departed worth. And however vain and unmeaning these ceremonies usually are, yet I venture the assertion that on this occasion not one word will be spoken, not one single act be done, that will not be prompted by the sincere conviction of him who says or does it.

Admitted to the bar in 1827, Governor Perry for fifty-nine years adorned the profession of which he was at once an ornament and a shining light. The relation of a lawyer to his client he regarded as a sacred trust, to be performed under the dictates of an enlightened conscience, actuated solely by the considerations of right and duty. Always studious, ever ready and fully prepared in his cases, he took advantage of no technicalities which the justice of his cause and the

rights of his client did not demand that he should act upon. Truth was his guiding star, and in every cause he sought to find it, and always followed and was led by it. So thoroughly was his conduct actuated by this principle that in looking back over his life I do not believe a single professional act could be pointed to which he would have had performed otherwise than as it was.

But, may it please your Honor, Governor Perry was not only a distinguished lawyer, he was also a profound statesman. However true in England the remark might be, that a great lawyer can never make a wise statesman, in this country, at least, and in the person of our distinguished friend, it is not an axiom, for it is not true. Living in the stormiest period of our country's history, when the greatest questions of public policy were agitating the whole people, he found himself almost invariably on the side of the minority, yet no man ever for an instant thought that his convictions were not sincere or his opinions honest. The purest patriotism prompted his every political word and deed, and all that he did and all that he said was in the faith of duty to his State and country.

And, may it please your Honor, time and the circumstances through which we have passed have demonstrated the wisdom of some, at least, of the opinions which he held.

Our friend was also a man of letters. Possessed of one of the finest miscellaneous libraries in the State, he was well informed on any subject which might arise. Thus it was that his society was courted and sought after by those who desired either to be entertained or instructed, for he was ever willing to impart to others that knowledge which he himself possessed. It was not my fortune to know him until within a few short years, but knowing was but to admire him, and it will ever be a source of satisfaction to me, your Honor, that I did know him, and to feel that he was my friend.

Shall we lift the sacred veil that shuts out his domestic from his public life? If we do, we behold the devoted husband, the affectionate father, the kind master, the generous friend, yea, may it please your Honor, the humble Christian. For whatever may be the public opinion as to Governor Perry's religious belief, we are assured by his pastor that he died in the perfect faith of an humble Christian child, and if better proof than this were wanted we have it in his own words. In his last will and testament, in its very first item, this language occurs: "I give my soul to God, hoping and trusting in His mercies, through the merits of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

Thus, then, may it please your Honor, has passed away the distinguished lawyer, the pure patriot, the wise statesman, the fond and affectionate husband and father, the generous friend, the Christian gentlemen—

> "A combination and a form indeed,
> Where every god did seem to set his seal,
> To give the world assurance of a man."

As such, he is worthy to be held up as an example for the youth of this and future generations; and happy will it be for the State of South Carolina, happy for the community in which they live, happy for themselves, if any be found worthy to wear the mantle which has fallen from his shoulders. He needs no marble monument to perpetuate his memory. He lives upon the pages of his country's history, he he lives in the hearts of his countrymen. He lives, aye! and will ever live, in the priceless legacy which he has left to his children and his children's children—an unspotted reputation, an honored name.

> "No farther seek his merits to disclose,
> Or draw his frailties from their dread abode;
> (There, they alike in trembling hope repose,)
> The bosom of his Father and his God."

I heartily second the resolutions which have been offered, and move that the court adjourn until to-morrow morning, in honor of the memory of Governor Benjamin Franklin Perry.

Mr. Ansel said:

May it please your Honor—I had the honor before another tribunal, soon after the death of our distinguished friend, Governor B. F. Perry, to introduce resolutions similar to the ones now presented, commemorative of Governor Perry, and to advocate the adoption of the same by the house of representatives of the State of South Carolina, and it gives me pleasure to add a few words, on this occasion and in this presence, upon the resolutions now offered.

It is, I think, eminently proper for us, among whom he has spent his long and useful life, to stop and consider the many good traits of his character, and as he is removed from our midst, to drop a tear upon the grave that hides his form from our sight.

The esteem in which he was held by the people of this county and State was shown on many occasions. He was the recipient of the highest offices in the gift of the people, and in each and every

one of them discharged the duties pertaining thereto with fidelity and honor.

My acquaintance with Governor Perry began during the later years of his life, and after he had retired from active practice at the bar, and I could but admire him for his honorable and upright life.

A few weeks ago I read with much pleasure and profit a speech delivered by him in 1844, before the students of Erskine College, Due West, S. C., and was touched with the wise words of advice it contained. The virtues of many great and good men were extolled and his hearers admonished to imitate them.

We, the younger members of the bar, and the older ones, too, might well learn a lesson from the exemplary life and high intellectual and moral character of our distinguished dead. He was a valuable member of this community and State, and the influence of such a life is not measured by the direct results alone. It is felt in its elevating power lifting us to higher and nobler aims. His faithfulness in the discharge of duty is well known. He was a son of whom South Carolina had every reason to be proud, and his loss will long be felt and sincerely mourned.

"Peace to his ashes."

Mr. Mooney said :

May it please your Honor—I hope that my older brethren of the bar will pardon the seeming forwardness of one so young as myself in rising in this presence to second these resolutions. But sir, Governor Perry was my friend, in the truest meaning of friend, and I cannot allow this occasion to pass without adding my little tribute to the memory of the great man who has fallen among us.

Before I had reached the age to appreciate for myself the noble qualities of head and heart that adorned the life of Governor Perry, I was taught at home to respect and honor him. Having grown up in a section of this county in which he was admired and looked up to perhaps more than any other, and having seen in what esteem the people held him, I could not but join with the throng that did him honor. But if your Honor please, when I came to know this personification of chivalry, this great statesman and profound lawyer, I fouud that the half had not been told me.

It was under his tuition and that of his distinguished son that I prepared myself for admission to practice in this court; and it is a distinction that I will always remember with a feeling of pride.

Having been more or less intimately acquainted with him for quite a number of years, I had an opportunty to ascertain the principles which governed his life; and I do think, sir, that when we find among the millions who are pushing and scrambling for fame and fortune with an utter disregard of the means used, or the result to their fellow men, a man who dares always do right, we should pause to admire, and point him out to the world as a *man* who is indeed the noblest work of God. Such a man was Governor Perry. His high character rendered him incapable of doing anything inconsistent with the highest instinct of a gentleman. No matter in what sphere of life he was called upon to perform a duty, whether as private citizen, lawyer or statesman, his high sense of moral rectitude always controlled his conduct, and in the discharge of that duty he knew no fear. Possessing a very high order of both moral and physical courage, he stood immovably by his convictions. I read with much profit, a short time ago, an address delivered by Governor Perry before the literary societies of Erskine College in 1844. It is a most admirable production, and entirely characteristic of its author; and knowing that he always lived up to his convictions, it gives us an insight to the character of the great man. One sentence in that address struck me as being *peculiarly* characteristic. It was this: "Without firmness and high moral courage no man can act correctly, no matter how pure his principles may be." His life proved the truthfulness of these words. Few men would have withstood the strong current of public sentiment as he did. When the heroric blood of Carolina's brave sons was boiling with indignation at the action of the North in demanding the emancipation of our slaves, and when the voice of the people from the mountain to the seaboard was crying out for secession, Governor Perry had the courage to stand up among the frenzied multitude and raise his voice for the Union. Doubtless the calm and cool deliberation begat in his vision the smouldering embers of a once happy home, the crouching form of a tender female weeping over the death of a brave husband or son, a proud and happy people humbled and impoverished, as a result of this unnatural war. Time, in my humble judgment, has proved that he was right. I could mention other abortive attempts to influence his conduct during his career as a legislator, but I deem it superfluous. Nor do I think it necessary in this presence to refer to the splendid services Governor Perry has done the country as a statesman. His walk has been among us, and history is known to us all. For ages to come, in reading the history of the great men of our times, Carolina's sons will point with pride to the

fact that Governor Perry was a true son of the old State. No one, I think, who knew him well, or has read much of that which he has written will doubt that he was a Christian; for there was no hypocrisy in his nature, and his sentiments were all in strict accord with the teachings of Christianity. It has been well said by the gentleman who preceded me that he was the humble Christian gentleman.

And now, my young brethren, we who are standing upon the threshold of the legal profession, we have an example in Governor Perry that it will be well for us to emulate. Let's take him as our model, and strive hard to attain to the high plane that he reached. Could we all succeed, what a bar, what a *country* we would have. He was zealous in his causes, and no client of his ever had cause to complain that his interests were not properly attended to.

I knew Governor Perry at home, and have seen his unselfish devotion to his family, and permit me to say, sir, that I have never seen a wife so proud of her husband as was Mrs. Perry of the Governor. She knew the maniless of his character, and adored him accordingly. If *we* mourn the loss of the manly form from our midst, how great must be *her* sorrow and loneliness until the trump's glad sound shall summon her to the everlasting companship of that noble spirit that beckons her from the other shore.

Mr. Heyward said :

May it please your Honor—I cannot allow the opportunity to pass without expressing the high regard and admiration I feel for the subject of these resolutions. During the last five or six years of his life I was, perhaps, nearer to Governor Perry than any member of the bar except his son. During that time my intercourse with him was almost daily, and I can truly say that I never heard from his lips the expression of an unworthy thought; of any, in fact, but the highest sentiments. He always expressed his feelings fearlessly, and without regard to consequences. He never had a friend or an enemy who could for a moment be in doubt as to his true sentiments towards him. This it was which added so much to his strength in Greenville county. What he said he meant, and no man ever knew him to deceive any one. His high courage is matter of history in this State. One of the most striking pictures in our history will represent him casting his single vote, upon a memorable occasion, in opposition to the entire convention in which he sat. This fact alone is sufficient to preserve his name as one of the striking characters of our State.

His professional conduct was equally high. My own experience with him is illustrative of his kindly feeling and generosity towards his juniors at the bar. I came to Greenville a stranger to the entire community. Those of my relatives who were in public life with Governor Perry were diametrically opposed to him in their views. I knew nothing of him except his name, and he knew nothing of me except that I was a beginner at the bar, without experience and without a practice. But this was all he desired to know. His hand was frankly extended, and his advice and assistance ever at my disposal. In the moment of success, he had always a kindly smile and grasp of the hand in congratulation ; in the hour of difficulty, a brave, cheery word of encouragement.

The empty chair your Honor, is a constant reminder to me of the loss I, individually, have sustained. But it needs not this to remind me. Till I myself shall sink into the grave I shall not forget his kindness.

Judge Fraser ordered the clerk to enter the resolutions, and said it was usual on such occasions to have a merely formal adjournment of court in the last hour of the session. He thought, however, that the character and position of Governor Perry required a more marked expression of respect, and that business should be suspended immediately. He added :

It is a privilege to unite with you in this tribute to the memory of Governor Perry. We are not called to mourn the loss of one who has been taken from our midst in youth or even in the full vigor of manhood, but of one who has lived more than the three score and ten years alloted to man and who in mature old age, after a life full of usefulness and honor has been gathered to the fathers.

When I was a mere boy and scarcely knew anyone outside of my own home or had begun to feel or take an intesest in anything beyond its narrow circle, I heard of him as a leader of men and an exponent of grand principle. This he continued to be throughout a long and eventful life. He was ever the same heroic, consistent advocate of what in his judgment were the rights and true interests of the State he loved so well.

This is not the occasion to discuss, nor is it possible for this generation to determine, the issues as to which there are differences of opinion amongst our people. They must be relegated to the future.

To Governor Perry belonged all the attributes of true manhood and true greatness. To you it was given to know his worth as a neighbor and a friend. To those of us who were not so fortunate it

was permitted to honor him as an eminent lawyer, a patriot and statesman. It was his eminent and unselfish patriotism that led him at the call of his State to surrender his own views of mere policy and unite his fortunes with those of his fellow citizens; and when disaster came in after years he was perhaps the boldest to raise his voice against the monstrous wrongs which arbitrary power had inflicted on a gallant though conquered people—wrongs which it was his privilege in old age to see in a measure redressed.

We make this record to-day, not to perpetuate his name, but to show that we are not unmindful of his virtues and his services. His is one of the few names that were not born to die and it will go down the current of history with the great men of South Carolina to serve in future times and for other generations to illustrate the character of a people whose representatives and exponents they are and of whom any people may be proud.

Let these resolutions be recorded in accordance with the wishes of the bar, and let the Court stand adjourned until to-morrow morning at half-past nine o'clock.

# MEETING

OF THE

# PARIS MOUNTAIN DEMOCRATIC CLUB.

At a called meeting of the Paris Mountain Democratic Club, in memory of Governor B. F. Perry, on Saturday, December 18th, 1886, the club was called to order by the president, Mr. Manning League. The object of the meeting was stated by Mr. League, to which he added, by saying:

Fellow Citizens of this Democratic Club—The object of this meeting brings with it sadness. I believe, if I mistake not, that this is the first meeting we have ever held since the organization of this club without his presence, and now we realize the fact that we will never see him any more. I feel sad, and I know by the expressions of your faces that his death brought sorrow with it; and now owing to his greatness, I feel my weakness when I have to speak to this club in behalf of such a man as our friend Governor B. F. Perry was. But little did I think on the second of last November, when his manly form, and with that noble and pleasant face, entered this room with that familiar step, and advanced to the desk where I was acting as clerk of the board of managers in that election, to cast his last vote for his son, Hon. W. H. Perry—one whom he loved as dearly as his own life, and one who is worthy of all the love that a father can bestow upon his son—he said to me as he picked up his ticket, "Do you want to swear me?" and my reply was, "Governor, your past history entitles you to a vote in this election"—But little did I think that was the last time I would have the pleasure of meeting him, and that these were to be the last words that were ever exchanged between us. I feel sad; you all feel sad, and this community feels the loss of such a great and noble man. But he is gone, and we will never see him again this side of eternity.

We know that his wise counsel and good advice to us in the past have been a shining light to us, so far as leading us to a grand victory politically. Now we are just entering into the dark. As night follows the day, so does darkness follow light. I knew that he was a great and noble man before I ever saw him, and I had learned to love him before I ever knew him; just because my father loved him. Our children will, in the future, know him and love him, because history's pages will teach them that he was a great and wise man.

In his death we are warned of a still greater and higher power. It proves to us that we, too, like this noble man and dear friend of ours, all alike have to pay the same debt. We all must die, but the world will not miss us as it will him, our friend Governor Perry; for we know that there is no one left among us to fill his place—none left that can fill the position that he occupied in life.

Now, in conclusion, allow me to say that South Carolina has never furnished, neither has she ever lost, a stronger man than Governor B. F. Perry.

There was a like expression of feeling manifested by several of the other members of the club, and a perfect sadness prevailed during the meeting; after which the president, Mr. League, vacated his chair and requested Mr. T. H. McAllister to fill his place. He then offered the following resolutions on the death of Governor B. F. Perry:

WHEREAS, The late B. F. Perry, Sr., a citizen of this township and a member of this Democratic Club, has been removed from our midst by death; it is

*Resolved*, That by his death we have lost a valuable member, whose wise counsels, extensive information and courteous manner had won our esteem and admiration.

*Resolved*, That the sympathy of the members of this club be conveyed to the bereaved widow and family of our deceased fellow-member, committing them in this hour of their bereavement to the kindly consolations of Him who doeth all things well, with the assurance that he, Governor B. F. Perry, was loved, honored and respected by us as members of this democratic club, and those of us who knew him best loved him most: and now he is dead, we thank God that He spared his noble life to see his loved State and country in a prosperous condition before he died. While he lived he gave us good and wise counsel, for he was always right and contended for right, and we could find no fault in him. He only lived a well-spent life, and we hope that our sad loss has been his great victory. Though he be dead,

yet shall he live again. And now, as he neared the end of his noble race, he felt that he had done his duty, and then he laid down that noble form of his, bid us farewell, surrendered his life in peace and then fell into a deep sleep. And we shall see him no more.

*Resolved*, That inasmuch as we feel sad in the death of Governor Perry, knowing that no one is left who can fill his place as he filled it, yet we are proud that we lived in his time and had the pleasure of spending so much pleasant time with such a great and noble man. The great headlight has gone out and it seems dark to us now.

*Resolved*, That a copy of these resolutions, suitably engrossed and signed by the president of this club, be transmitted to the widow and family of the late Governor B. F. Perry.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be spread on the journal of this club, and that a like copy be forwarded to the editors of the Greenville papers for publication.

These resolutions being offered by the president, the club unanimously adopted them and ordered them signed by the same.

L. Manning League,
President.

C. B. Hill,
Secretary.

## WORK THAT CANNOT DIE.

# GOVERNOR PERRY'S ADDRESS

BEFORE THE

## LITERARY SOCIETIES OF ERSKINE.

Since Governor Perry's death Mrs. Perry has had republished in pamphlet form an address delivered before the Literary Societies of Erskine College, Due West, S. C., in 1844. The address attracted much attention when first delivered and was at that time published in a widely circulated pamphlet.

Its republication has elicited many expressions of admiration and approval which give evidence that the noble words and thoughts of Governor Perry are as strong and true after forty-two years as when first spoken.

From many letters of acknowledgment the following have been chosen for preservation here:

[From the Baptist Courier, March 24th, 1887.]

We are indebted to the kindness of Mrs. B. F. Perry for a copy of an address delivered by Governor Perry some forty-three years ago at Erskine College. This reprint is an appropriate and beautiful tribute to the memory of a noble husband by one who in the closest and tenderest of human relationships loved and admired him while living. Now that his form is no longer seen, and his voice no longer heard, what more natural than the purpose revealed in words penned on the title-page of the copy with which we have been favored: "Delivered forty-three years ago, and republished by his wife, *that his words of wisdom may still benefit the rising generation.*"

Governor Perry had a taste for books. In the old mansion which he formerly occupied in Greenville, and in the statelier structure at Sans Souci, he had large apartments for the accommodation of his library. In the midst of an extensive and laborious legal practice, he found time to make himself familiar with these "monuments of wis-

dom." According to Bacon's aphorism, "Reading maketh the full man; conversation, the ready man; and writing, the exact man," he had ample opportunity for treasuring up a large store of information in regard to the great men who have figured in the arena of the world's history. Few cultivated men had a larger stock of facts and anecdotes respecting illustrious men, dead or living, wherewith to illustrate his views. Believing that "history is philosophy teaching by example," he garnered up such material, and turned it to account in his addresses, written and spoken.

In his address to the Literary Societies of Due West, he enforces his counsels by an ample use of historic illustration.

Those who personally knew the venerable ex-Governor know that with his aspect and port he might fittingly have occupied a seat in that conclave of venerable patricians at the sight of whom Brennus stopped awe-struck at the entrance of the senate chamber. And his character agreed well with these outward indications. Its most prominent traits, as seen by the public eye, were invincible firmness and fearlessness, an undisguised contempt for every thing base or mean, and a magnanimity which could see and acknowledge the merits of those to whom he stood opposed. A fine illustration of this last quality is furnished in this address. It is a fact in the history of his State that he was opposed to the views of Mr. Calhoun on a great political question of absorbing interest. In these circumstances, had he been a small-minded man, he would not have alluded to him without some deprecating insinuation. But instead of that, he mentions the great senator in only the most honorable terms. Hear what he says of Mr. Calhoun:

"Had he been born in England, instead of the United States, he would have graced the brightest period of her history. As an orator and a parliamentary debater, he would have ranked with the Foxes and the Pitts. As a man of genius and a brilliant statesman, he would not have been surpassed by the proudest names which England can boast. In private life, he has always sustained a character pure and spotless. His career in congress was a most brilliant one. He entered the house of representative a very young man, immediately preceding the declaration of war; and his devotion to business, united with his genius and ability, soon placed him at the head of that body, filled, as it was, with the greatest men the country afforded."

These noble words, coming as they do from a political antagonist, are alike honorable to the writer and to his subject.

Our readers, we are sure, will share with us the pleasure felt in

reading the last words of this address, intended for the graduating class, and equally applicable to others in like circumstances:

"In conclusion, gentlemen, let me impress on you, as you are about to leave this institution, to carry with you, and treasure up in perpetual remembrance, those great principles of virtue, morality, and religion which have been taught you by your learned president and professors. If you are disposed to regard your happiness and prosperity in this life, and your future welfare in a world to come, these are the lessons to which you minds will most often revert, and which will be the last to depart from your memories. You have long been associated as companions and friends. Let me assure you that early friendships, like early lessons of piety and religion, are the most permanent. You are now going to separate, perhaps forever. In all human probability, your destinies will be cast in different and distant countries. You may never meet again in this world—but let this be your bond of union and sympathy. At night, when you have offered up your prayers to God, and in the morning, when you have returned your thanks for your preservation during the past night, let your thoughts revert to your Alma Mater and her lessons of wisdom and religion, which were taught you all in common. Go prosper and be happy. My earnest and feverent prayers go with you."

These are truly words of wisdom.

JAMES C. FURMAN.

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GREENVILLE MILITARY INSTITUTE,
CAPT. JOHN B. PATRICK, SUPERINTENDENT,
GREENVILLE, S. C., March 3, 1887.

Dear Madam—The copy of the Address delivered before the Literary Societies of Erskine College in 1844, which you have had the kindness to send me, has been received, and I have read it with pleasure. The elevated principles and ennobling sentiments it contains cannot fail to prove beneficial to the rising generation, who may have the privilege of reading it.

To you, dear madam, now that your honored husband is no more, it must be a source of unfailing pleasure, that you are permitted to place before the young the lessons of wisdom and instruction which he, in his lifetime, sought to impress both by precept and example.

Thanking you for favoring me with a copy of the address, I remain,

Very respectfully, and truly yours,

JOHN B. PATRICK.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

OFFICE OF THE LAURENSVILLE HERALD,
LAURENS, C. H., S. C., March 3, 1887.

Dear Mrs. Perry—Yours of the twenty-seventh ultimo did not reach me until to-day, and I hasten reply.

As to your distinguished husband, permit me to say, I always regarded him as one of South Carolina's ablest and noblest sons—the peer and equal of any man in this or any other State, in ability, patriotism and statesmanship.

As a member of a nominating convention I had the honor of proposing Governor Perry's name for congress, and he was unanimously nominated. That was during radical misrule in this State, and while he received the vote of all respectable people, he was, of course, defeated. A. S. Wallace was the radical candidate.

Later, as president of the State Press Association, I again had the honor of responding to an eloquent and cordial address of welcome, delivered by him, on a certain occasion when our association met in your city. Hence, having known him since the early part of 1849, now nearly forty years, (from my early youth,) it is but natural that I should appreciate and highly prize the photograph of a man I have long had the highest respect and regard for.

With regard, I am, very truly and respectfully,

Your friend,

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C. T. B. CREWS.

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GREENVILLE, March 5th, 1887.

Dear Madam—I thank you for the address of Governor Perry, delivered before the Literary Societies of Erskine College. I have read and re-read it with great satisfaction. The address is eminently characteristic of the author in vigor of style, classical elegance and exalted sentiments. The principles he inculcated in the address I have no doubt he himself practiced from early manhood, and was the basis of that superstructure of character which won the respect and admiration of all his fellow-citizens.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

LEONARD WILLIAMS.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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FURMAN UNIVERSITY,
GREENVILLE, S. C., March 7th, 1887.

Dear Madam—I wish to thank you for a copy of the address of the late Governor Perry, delivered before the Literary Societies of Erskine College in 1844. I have read the address with more than ordinary

interest, and could easily imagine, both from its *style* and from its *substance*, that I was reading an address to young men by the great Franklin, whom the author so much admired.

The "words of wisdom" addressed to the young men of Erskine more than forty years ago, have lost nothing of their freshness or value, and I rejoice that, through your generosity, the young men of to-day have this opportunity of receiving the counsels of the departed sage. I should rejoice to learn that copies of this address have been placed in the libraries of all the literary societies in the State. I am sure the presidents of the colleges would take pleasure in commending the address to the attention of the young men.

Nothing is better suited to stimulate young men to great and noble endeavor than the perusal of the biographies of great men whose lives are worthy of emulation.

South Carolina owes *you* a debt of gratitude for republishing this excellent address.

With kind regards to yourself and to my esteemed friend, Mrs. Beattie, I remain,

Yours very truly,

C. H. JUDSON.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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LAW DEPARTMENT, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA,
March 10, 1887.

My Dear Madam—I am in receipt this morning from you of the valued address delivered by your distinguished husband at Erskine College, September 18, 1844, and pray you to accept my hearty thanks therefor.

Having been always personally a stranger to him, I have yet followed his course from 1861 and downwards with great interest. A man who at that period of infuriated excitement was capable of obeying the dictates of his conscience, despite what the Roman poet denominates the "*Pravus ordos livium jubentium*," must have been one of uncommon mould, and his sentiments cannot but be worthy of careful study.

I have handed the copies designed for our two literary societies to prominent members of each, who will no doubt make a fitting presentation of them to the societies respectively.

With the greatest respect, I remain, dear madam,

Your most obedient,

JOHN B. MINOR.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

OFFICE OF F. W. MCMASTER,
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, NO, 8 LAW RANGE,
COLUMBIA, S. C., March 11th, 1887.

My Dear Madam—I received the address of Hon. B. F. Perry, which you so kindly sent me, and read it with pleasure (and I hope with profit) as soon as it came to hand.

Most heartily do I assent to his assertion, "Is it not something to be in the company of the great and wise who have gone before us?" The lives and characters of the distinguished philosophers, statesmen and patriots whom he set up as examples to the young students of Erskine undoubtedly had been an inspiration to him in his former days, and contributed in no small measure to shape and mould his own character.

We can easily see that he did not speak for a holiday exercise, or to exhibit his store of learning or powers of rhetoric; but that his oration was the outpouring of a big soul that believed in honesty, virtue and courage, and these attributes which he so admired in the great men of the past, and which he commended to the young students of Erskine, together with the lessons of wisdom and religion taught there, he illustrated in his distinguished career. And in this advice he has left footprints on the sands of time which mark the road of honor to the youth of a State which will ever revere his memory and write his name high on the roll of honor.

Although I saw in the two lines which you wrote on the title page—"Delivered forty-three years ago, and republished *by his wife*, that his words of wisdom may still benefit the rising generation"—that your heart throbbed with the thought, for the touch of a vanished hand, and the sound of a voice which is still, yet you have the consolation of knowing that your husband lived well and wisely, and that you perform a good deed when you spread abroad his words of wisdom and truth.

With kind regards and best wishes for your happiness, I remain

Your most obedient servant,

F. W. MCMASTER.

To MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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COLUMBIA, March 12th, 1887.

Dear Madam—Please accept my sincere thanks for your favor of March seventh. I was a student in Erskine College when the address was delivered (more than forty-two years ago) by your lamented and distinguished husband, the Hon. B. F. Perry, of whose reputation as a scholar and gentleman every South Carolinian is justly proud. I re-

member well the profound impression which was made by the address, and am truly glad to learn that it has been republished.

Again thanking you for this unexpected and very highly appreciated compliment, and assuring you that it will be most gratefully remembered,

I am, very respectfully,

Your obedient, humble servant,

E. L. PATTON,

Professor Ancient Languages, S. C. College.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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BOSTON, MASS., 90 MARLBOROUGH ST.,
March 12th, 1887.

My Dear Madam—The pamphlet on which you have so kindly written my name, with your own, reached me yesterday, and I lose no time in thanking you for it. I have read it with great interest. There are but few addresses which will reward a reproduction so well at the end of forty-four years. The words which your distinguished husband pronounced then are worthy of being read again now, and they have an additional interest as "republished by his wife."

I knew Governor Perry well by reputation as a statesman and orator, though I am not sure of having met him personally. I have a book of his in my library which I owed to his kind gift. Of the great men of Abbeville, mentioned in this address, I knew well at least three—Mr. Calhoun, General McDuffie, and my friend Mr. Petigru—so that I can appreciate all that is said of them.

A son of the eminent Langdon Cheves was for a year under the same roof with me at Cambridge, while he was at the Harvard law school, but the father was only known to me by fame.

Accept, dear madam, my best thanks, and believe me,

Respectfully and truly yours,

ROBERT C. WINTHROP.

MRS. B. F. PERRY,

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SUPREME COURT OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
CHERAW, S. C., 14th April, 1887.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—I must beg you to pardon my *seeming* neglect in not heretofore acknowledging the receipt of a copy of the address of your distinguished husband, the late Governor Perry, before the Literary Societies of Erskine College. It has been due solely to the

presence of my official duties, which have been so pressing as to leave me no time for attention to anything else.

I am very much obliged to you indeed for giving me the opportunity to read and *preserve* these words of wisdom and warning so appropriately addressed to young men just entering on the stage of life, which, coming now as a voice from the grave of one of our distinguished dead, will, I trust and believe, contribute largely towards elevating the moral tone of the youth of the present generation, and impressing them with the important truths that nothing good can be attained without constant and diligent labor.

Governor Perry's high character and unflinching boldness commanded for him not only the respect but the admiration of all right-minded persons; for I happen to know, personally, that many of his warmest friends and admirers were among those who were always diametrically opposed to his political views.

Thanking you for your kind attention, I remain,

Yours very respectfully,

HENRY McIVER.

To MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE,
COLUMBIA, S C., March 15th, 1887.

Dear Madam—Please accept my sincere thanks for the copy of your husband's address which you so kindly sent me. I have just finished reading it, and am very much pleased with the way in which he pointed to the defects and excellencies of the great men of the world, making them object lessons for the young men to whom he spoke.

Permit me to say, that your husband, in my opinion, will himself long be remembered as a most conspicuous instance of firmness and inflexibility of purpose—of an honest independence of thought which would not be diverted by overwhelming public opinion, and that he enjoyed the rare privilege of living down this opposition and proving in the end the wisdom of many of the positions he maintained in politics in opposition to the great "leaders" of the day.

In times of obsequiousness and self-seeking, of demagoguery and flinching from duty, it is a great privilege to be able to point to one who said what he thought, and made no compromise with conscience.

I did not intend to say so much when I began, and feel now that I havn't said exactly what I intended to say. Still, I mean this as a feeble tribute to the memory of Ex-Governor Perry.

Believe me, yours respectfully,

MRS. B. F. PERRY. R. MEANS DAVIS.

CHERAW, S. C., March 17th, 1887.

Dear Madam—Accept my sincere thanks for the beautiful and instructive address delivered in Abbeville by your estimable husband, Hon. B. F. Perry. Although more than forty years have elapsed since the production was composed, there is a vigor and freshness about it that makes it read like a piece of to-day. I always admired Governor Perry's style of composition. There is a manliness of thought conveyed in a bright and sparkling rhetoric that make his writings peculiarly impressive and agreeable. His meaning is never obscure, showing that he was always master of his subject, and his utterances so strong and forcible it required no effort of memory to retain them. I have sometimes wondered which I admired most, the writer or the man. I was personally acquainted with Governor Perry for a long time and my admiration for him was very great. He was truly one of nature's noblemen. I have had my youngest son, now twenty-five, read the address. He seemed to be very much interested in it, and I think read it with profit as well as pleasure.

Again accept my sincere thanks for the address. It was indeed very kind of you to remember me.

May God ever bless you, my dear madam, is the sincere wish of an old friend and admirer of your good and noble husband.

Very truly yours,

MRS. B. F. PERRY. CORNELIUS KOLLOCK.

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SANTA BARBARA, CAL., March 23rd, 1887.

My Dear Cousin—I have, with much pleasure, read the very interesting address by your late husband, Governor Perry, which you so kindly sent me. My youngest son (Arthur Peronneau), whom we all call Perry, is now at the university of this State, and I have sent the address to him for his special edification. It gratifies me that you should still so kindly remember me as to send me this memento of your honored husband, whom I always held in the utmost respect, and I flatter myself that he too kindly regarded me. That your and his son, who also bears our family name, is now representing his State in congress, must be a gratification to you, as it is also to those of our family connected with him. I am thankful that my sons, in this our new home, are doing well.

With many thanks for your kind remembrance and sincere wishes for the welfare of you and yours,

Believe me, my dear cousin,

Very affectionately yours,

MRS. B. F. PERRY. W. ALSTON HAYNE.

WINNSBORO NATIONAL BANK.

GEO. H. MCMASTER, President.
T. K. ELLIOTT, Cashier.

WINNSBORO, S. C., March 24th, 1887.

Dear Madam—Accept my thanks for the address of your venerated husband. He possessed many of the noble traits he loved to depict in others. With sincerity I say that I regard Governor Perry as being in the foremost rank of those South Carolinians who should be held up as exemplars before our youth as being one of the noblest men our State has ever produced.

May you yet have many years of happiness.

With great respect, yours truly,

G. H. MCMASTER.

MRS. PERRY.

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LOUISVILLE, KY., March 28th, 1887.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—Upon my return Saturday from a few days absence I found the pamphlet you had sent me. I am very glad that you have reprinted this address of your distinguished husband, thus over forty years after its delivery at Erskine College. It is like old wine; it is better than new. Would that its words of wisdom may make a deep impress upon the minds of many now young, and of many yet unborn who, though not privileged to have known Governor Perry save by report, will yet partake in this way of that wisdom which he so illustriously displayed among those who knew him personally. I esteem it one of my greatest privileges of life to have enjoyed his friendship and confidence. The purity of his character, the nobility and fearlessness of his nature, his firm maintenance of what he thought right and just and patriotic in the midst of contrary influences of the good and great, and in defiance of the detraction of the base and mean, give a force that cannot be measured to all his words of morality and virtue. He was one of the very few who could handle the pitch of political life and not be defiled. I thank God for the example given in him of one so pure and true a man. No one can tell what an influence it had upon his day and generation. I am glad that you will aid in perpetuating it through the reprint of this pamphlet.

Yours truly,

JAMES P. BOYCE.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

UNION, 29th March, 1887.

My Dear Madam—It gives me great pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the address of Governor Perry before the Literary Societies of Erskine College in A. D. 1844, which reached me during the term of our circuit court just concluded.

I can imagine no more forcible way for the accomplishment of the purpose in view—impressing upon young men those qualities which make men good and great—than the one adopted by Governor Perry in this address; and it is a matter of great pride to his State, of more importance and greater profit to those who came within his influence, the fact that the qualities which he so forcibly and eloquently presented were illustrated in his own life and character—high, useful and noble; followed in his old age by "honor, love, obedience and troops of friends."

With many thanks for your kind remembrance, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

DAVID JOHNSON, JR.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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OFFICE OF MURRAY & SHELOR,
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW,
WALHALLA, S. C., March 30th, 1887.

Dear Aunt—Before I became related to the Perry family by marriage, even from my early childhood, my father taught me to honor Governor B. F. Perry for his noble qualities and genuine manhood, and to emulate his many public virtues and private excellencies. So, by the education of my youth, your husband was the ideal of patriotism in my mind's eye. I feel that his name is to-day a synonym in this State for purity and stability.

So to receive the copy of his address, which was delivered before the Literary Societies of Erskine College forty-three years ago, gives me genuine pleasure, and in reading it, which I did aloud to my family last evening, I find many ideas that should find a lodgement in the minds of the youths of the country. Its principles should be widely disseminated and will result in good.

Many thanks for the copy. I will preserve the address for the benefit of my children, his kinsmen, in the future.

Yours most truly,

JOE W. SHELOR.

MRS. GOV. B. F. PERRY,
Greenville, S. C.

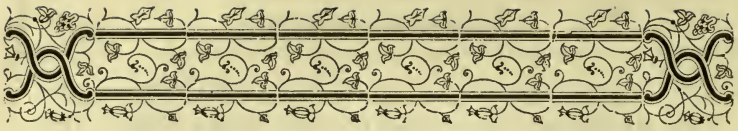
SUMMERVILLE, S. C., April 20th, 1887.

Dear Mrs. Perry—The copy of Governor Perry's Erskine College address has come, and I thank you for sending it. His "words of wisdom" always commanded attention, though it was his lot in life to differ from the trusted leaders of this State. They who differed from and they who agreed with him, all regarded him with most profound respect and admiration. True-hearted, pure and full of wisdom, he was a high honor to the State. No one of her children had greater moral courage, or was more zealously devoted to right principle.

Very truly yours,

B. C. PRESSLEY.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.



# ADDITIONAL LETTERS.

The first edition of the Memorial of Governor Perry was found to be insufficient to supply all those who desired copies and who had the right to expect that their wishes would be met. Therefore, a second edition was determined on, and the more readily because after the issue of the first many letters were received expressive of the appreciation of Governor Perry's character and services.

Some of these are given below:

OFFICE OF EDWARD CROFT, ATTORNEY AT LAW,
GREENVILLE, S. C., May 23d, 1887.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—I have received the Memorial which you were good enough to send me, and thank you very sincerely for the same. I shall always keep it and value it as a just tribute to the character and worth of a great statesman, a pure and self-sacrificing patriot, a noble and spotless husband, an honored parent, a warm and generous friend, and one whom I shall always regard it a great privilege and pleasure to have known through life, and one whose friendship, society and hospitality I was permitted to enjoy.

The Memorial is tastefully and neatly gotten up, and reflects much credit upon your love and faithful devotion. I do not believe there is one word in all the pamphlet, which is not absolutely true, and uttered in the greatest sincerety, for it can be said of Governor Perry, that words cannot embellish nor exaggerate his worth and character.

To the world Governor Perry perhaps appeared stern and reserved, but I know from an instance in my own family affairs that he was most generous and tender hearted. So much so, that I found until then I had never known or understood his true character, worth and gentleness. On the occasion I speak of he melted into tears, and his generosity was such that I can never forget, and have always since felt under obligations to his family. It will be long before we shall look upon his like again.

Hoping you are gradually recovering from the great shock which you have sustained, believe me as ever,

Very truly and sincerely yours,

EDWARD CROFT.

COLUMBIA, S. C., May 23d, 1887.

Dear Madam—Accept my acknowledgments of your courtesy in sending me a copy of the Memorial published by you in honor of your lamented husband. I have read it with great interest and with a profound conviction of the truth of its utterances. Of no other man whom I have met could as much be truthfully said. Panegyric has exhausted itself in the endeavor to do justice to his exalted charcter, his self-abnegation, his peerless courage, his unfaltering devotion to duty, his undying patriotism. Long may the recollection of his noble life and deeds remain with us and our children's children as a monument of every virtue which should adorn humanity.

With great respect, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

A. N. TALLEY.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,
COLUMBIA, S. C., May 24th, 1887.

My Dear Madam—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Memorial of the life and services of your late husband which you sent me; for which you will please accept my grateful thanks. In the long line of South Carolina's illustrious sons, I know of none whose name will in coming time excite greater and more continued admiration than will the name of the Hon. Benjamin F. Perry. I shall place this Memorial in the hands of my sons, respectively fourteen and seventeen years of age, and ask them to study it and learn to imitate those noble virtues of independence of thought, self-reliance, integrity, honor and purity of mind and purpose, which so eminently distinguished him in life.

Again thanking you for your kind consideration, I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully,

W. Z. LEITNER.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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UNITED STATES COURTS FOR SOUTH CAROLINA,
CHARLESTON, S. C., 24th, May, 1887.

My Dear Madam—The Memorial of Governor Perry which you have done me the honor of sending me came to-day. It will be carefully preserved as the record of a South Carolinian who, at the same time

possessed to a remarkable degree the qualities which have made our State honored, and who did not find his devotion to his State, inconsistent with pride in our common country.

Under many thanks, yours respectfully,

CHARLES H. SIMONTON.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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FURMAN UNIVERSITY,
CHAS. MANLY, D. D., PRESIDENT,
GREENVILLE, S. C., May 24th, 1887.

Dear Madam—You have placed me under renewed obligations, for which I thank you, by your kindness in sending me a copy of the Memorial, filled with impressive testimonials to the distinguished excellences which adorned the character of your honored husband.

Grateful for having received from your own hands this touching tribute of affection, I shall do what I can, in my intercourse with young men rapidly coming on the arena of life, to second your care, "That the memory of his virtues and the example of his noble devotion to his duty and his country shall be preserved for future generations."

With greatest respect, I am,

Yours, very truly,

CHAS. MANLY.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Sans Souci.

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SPARTANBURG, S. C., May 25th, 1887.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—I feel myself honored by the receipt of the Memorial of your honorable husband. I appreciate the compliment. An intimate acquaintance of near half a century with Governor Perry, many years of which I was with him in the halls of legislation of South Carolina, gave me an opportunity to know him well. I can truly say he maintained a high and noble stand as an able and fearless high toned gentleman. Bold in his advocacy of the right. and denunciation of the wrong. I can truly say the State has lost one of her noblest sons in the death of Governor Perry, but his example is not lost. I deeply sympathize with his bereaved family, and especially with his noble wife.

Most respectfully, yours truly,

GABRIEL CANNON.

WALHALLA, S. C., 25th May, 1887.

My Dear Madam—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of the Memorial of my late lamented friend, Governor B. F. Perry, and to tender to you and the other members of his immediate family my hearty smypathy in this sad bereavement.

The citizens of this, his native county, were unbounded in their admiration of his sound judgment, unswerving honesty, Roman firmness and commanding presence. I was taught to share in this admiration; and when I arrived at manhood and knew him well, it nothing abated. I read law with him, and to his wise and earnest counsels I owe much of my success in my profession.

I am happy to have had his friendship.

Sincerely and respectfully yours,

J. J. NORTON.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Sans Souci.

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EXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, D. C., May 26th, 1887.

Dear Madam—The President desires me to thank you for your courtesy in favoring him with a copy of the Memorial volume of your late husband, ex-Governor Benjamin Franklin Perry, of South Carolina.

Very respectfully,

DANIEL S. LAMONT,
Private Secretary.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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VIOLET HILL, GREENVILLE, S. C., May 30th, 1887.

My Dear Madam—You will please accept my thanks for the book so kindly sent me. I assure you I appreciate your kind remembrance and will keep it as a token of your friendship.

Very early in life, when a boy, I appreciated the character of Governor Perry. I looked upon him as the leading and most enviable man in the country. He has left us the example of a noble, useful and eventful life. You do well to perpetuate it and hold it up to the young rising generation for worthy imitation.

I am, my dear madam, with much respect,

Yours truly,

H. C. MARKLEY.

To MRS. B. F. PERRY.

706 WALNUT STREET,
PHILADELPHIA, June 2d, 1887.

My Dear Sir—I have read with great interest the Memorial of your father, which you kindly sent me.

Except Mr. Memminger, who is, I think, still alive, your father was the last of a small body of far seeing men who would have saved South Carolina from all the misery which the attempt to secede eventually brought upon her.

The crop was reaped in 1861, but the seed was sown in 1832. I was a boy in Charleston in 1832–'3 and remember vividly the excitement and political meetings, when Hayne and Hamilton and Turnbull on one side and my father and Petigru and Memminger on the other, used to speak; and I witnessed certainly one fight in the streets after a political meeting. Still good has come out of evil, though South Carolina has seemed to suffer more than any other Southern State. I remember your mother, as I sometimes used to play with her brother. These were then little girls, of whom she was, of course, one. I think the brother's name was William; but all this was more than half a century ago, and it is only brought back to me by the reference to your mother in the outline of your father's career. He was a man of heroic mould, of whom his children and grandchildren may well be proud, as one who strove to attain "noble ends by noble means."

Believe me, yours very truly,

W. H. DRAYTON.

DR. HEXT M. PERRY.

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LAW OFFICE OF ROBT. W. SHAND,
COLUMBIA, S. C., June 6th, 1887.

Dear Mrs. Perry—Please accept my sincere thanks for the Memorial volume of your lamented husband, received a few days ago. Governor Perry was a man who belonged not exclusively to his own family, but in part also to his State, whom he served so long and faithfully, and with whose history he was in large part so closely identified for many years. It is a gratification to me to have this little book as a reminder of his noble life, and to have in enduring form the record of the esteem with which others regarded him.

Your own act in remembering me among those remembered in the distribution of the Memorial is very highly appreciated I assure you.

With kind regards, I am,

Respectfully and sincerely yours,

ROBT. W. SHAND.

To MRS. GOV. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

BEAUVOIR, MISS., 7th June, 1887.

Dear Madam—Please accept my thanks for your kind consideration in sending to me the volume "In Memoriam" of your deceased husband. You have rendered a good service to the coming generation of your people. They will need such landmarks to teach them the truths that are so fast fading from the political arena.

Please again accept my thanks for the privilege you have accorded to me of reading carefully collated material illustrative of your husband's good life. When we see, even at the present day, how little the great and pure Calhoun is understood by many and misrepresented by more, is there not cause to fear that those most honored in their day and generation will soon be forgotten or remembered for reproach?

Very respectfully and truly yours,

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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CHARLESTON, S. C., June 7th, 1887.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—Though late, I beg to acknowledge the receipt, and to thank you for the same, of the address by Governor Perry before Erskine College in 1844. Also please accept my thanks for your kind remembrance of me in the pamphlet, just received by mail, In Memorian.

I recall with pleasure my meeting Governor Perry at his hospitable home on several occasions when I visited Greenville—particularly my last visit. May God be with you, and bless you and comfort you under your bereavement. I beg also to be remembered most respectfully to Mrs. Beattie.

I remain, my dear madam,

Most respectfully yours,

W. B. W. HOWE.

MRS. PERRY, Sans Souci,
Greenville county.

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OFFICE OF STATE TREASURER,
COLUMBIA, S. C., June 9th, 1887.

Dear Madam—Please accept my thanks for a copy of "In Memoriam of your honored and lamented husband, the Hon. B. F. Perry." Personally my acquaintance with him was limited, but as a statesman and

South Carolinian I knew him well. His long life of usefulness, a statesman of broad and liberal views, of spotless character and strict integrity, will keep his memory dear to all true South Carolinians.

Yours, very respectfully,

I. S. BAMBERG.

To MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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ANDREW CRAWFORD, ATTORNEY AT LAW,
COLUMBIA, S. C., June 11th, 1887.

Dear Madam—I esteem it a very high distinction to be permitted to thank you for the In Memoriam volume which your wifely devotion has prepared in honor of your noble husband. This little book contains many beautiful sentiments clothed in graceful diction, but both will die and be forgotten, and yet will the name of Benjamin Franklin Perry be a household word and a living example among South Carolinians. It is not exaggeration to say, that

"A man more pure and bold and just
Was never born into the earth."
He was Cato without Cato's vices.

You will pardon me, I am sure, for writing at length upon the subject to which your volume is devoted; and permit me to add that I am,

Very truly and respectfully,

ANDREW CRAWFORD.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER GENERAL,
COLUMBIA, S. C., June 11th, 1887.

My Dear Madam—To my thanks for your courtesy in sending me the Memorial pamphlet to Governor Perry, I must now add an apology for my delay in acknowledging it, but I trust that you will accept as some excuse the constant demands of my official duties. I need not say with what pleasure I read the tributes to your husband, and how I was impressed with the fact that a true, honest and consistent life must always win respect and appreciation.

Very respectfully,

W. E. STONEY.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

SAN MATEO, CAL., June 12th, 1887.

My Dear Cousin—I have just received the pamphlet In Memoriam of your lamented husband, Governor Perry. As you know I left South Carolina too young to have ever seen him, or indeed any of your family, but of course I knew what a distinguished place he filled in the State's history, and the pamphlet you have sent contains ample evidence of the affection and esteem in which he was held by his friends and fellow-citizens.

Your bereavement must have been great, and I feel and hope you will permit me to express the sincerest sympathy.

With kind regards to all my cousins, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

ROBT. Y. HAYNE.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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LAW OFFICE OF DARGAN & DARGAN,
DARLINGTON, S. C., June 13th, 1887.

Dear Madam—Please accept my sincere thanks for a copy of "Memorial of the late ex-Governor B. F. Perry." Governor Perry was of such character and rendered such services to the country as entitles him to be held in grateful rememberance by all who respect fearless devotion to duty and ardent love of justice and truth.

With kindest wishes for you personally,

I am, with great respect,

Yours very truly,

G. W. DARGAN.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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COLUMBIA, S. C., June 17th, 1887.

My Dear Madam—Please accept my thanks for the pamphlet published in memory of the late Governor Perry, which you kindly sent. I have found much pleasure in reading it. I value it for the well merited praise it contains by eminent people and from varied sources of one of the best and most illustrious men of his day. I value it for the information it contains concerning one whom I many years ago learned to admire, one whose course at certain critical periods I watched with interest, and I may add with pleasure. I value it for the inscription on the title page, and shall carefully preserve it.

I am grateful that I had the privilege of some personal acquaint-

ance with Governor Perry. The influence of his life and example for good will long continue to be felt, and his memory long be honored for the good life he lived, and for his patriotism and heroic devotion to the best interests of his State.

Very respectfully yours,

N. K. GREENFIELD.

To MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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CHARLESTON, S C., June 20th, 1887.

Dear Madam—I appreciate highly the opportunity of perusing the beautiful tributes sent me in memory of your noble and distinguished husband. I have been taught to admire and venerate him from childhood as one of Carolina's truest sons, and in maturer years I have always regarded him as an eminent example to all the good and true young men of the State. * * * I have regarded Governor Perry as the wisest and grandest man of his age in South Carolina. Such was the opinion of my sainted parents, and their children all concurred with them.

The perusal of the Memorial at the present time, in the hour of my very deep affliction, is quite comforting to me. My loved and devoted brother found much consolation in his last hours in the confident hope that it would not be ~~over twenty~~ many years before the loved ones around him would join him in the beautiful and happy land. It seems to me it is the only consolation of surviving hearts.

With sentiments of respect, I am,

Yours very truly,

GEO. L. BUIST.

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NINETY-SIX, S. C., 20th June, 1887.

My Dear Madam—Allow me to thank you for so kindly remembering me in your distribution of Governor Perry's Erskine College address amongst his friends and admirers, as also for the Memorial volume lately received by me. The one is a noble monument erected by himself to his memory, and the other a worthy monument erected by his friends and countrymen. I inherited great regard and esteem for Governor Perry and to this was added admiration when I had gained personal knowledge of him. In my humble judgment few men in our State have left a finer example of all that was high, noble and useful.

Again thanking you for so kindly remembering me, and with sincere best wishes for you and yours, I am,

Yours most sincerely,

MRS. PERRY. J. H. BROOKS.

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LAW OFFICE OF A. S. DOUGLASS, NO. 6 LAW RANGE,
WINNSBORO, S. C., June 20th, 1887.

My Dear Madam—You will please accept my sincere thanks for the Memorial pamphlet which you kindly sent me, containing an outline sketch of the noble and useful life of your distinguished husband, the well merited encomiums passed upon him by the press of the State on the announcement of his death, and letters of leading men and friends in which they give expression to their high appreciation of his noble character and eminent mental endowments. My admiration of Governor Perry commenced in my early youth, when I enjoyed the weekly visits of "The Greenville Patriot" to my father's house. The admiration then formed of his commanding talents, of his high, solid character and worth as a man, led me to become a law student under him in the fall of 1853. I have very pleasant memories of the ten months which I spent in Greenville as a law student, and among these memories, permit me to say, dear madam, I have a very grateful remembrance of the kindness and consideration which I received from you.

With my highest regards and best wishes for your future happiness,

I remain, very truly yours,

A. S. DOUGLASS.

To MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA,
OFFICE ADJUTANT GENERAL,
COLUMBIA, S. C., June 22d, 1887.

Dear Madam—After a prolonged absence from my office I returned a day or two since and find the Memorial to Governor Perry, which you so kindly sent me. I appreciate very highly your thoughtfulness in sending it. No man ever lived in South Carolina, a State so prolific in pure, good men, who commanded more universal love, respect and admiration than Governor Perry. My father taught me to look up to him with reverence and respect. My subsequent knowledge of his brave fight for principle, of all his patriotism and loyalty to and love for his people, his State and his devotion to duty, has but increased the sentiments of regard with which I invested him living and which I entertain for his memory.

It was a happy thought to put in enduring form the evidences of the esteem in which he was held. It will serve to point the coming generation to the paths of rectitude and honor, as trod by your illustrious husband.

Permit me to thank you for sending me a copy.

With great respect,

Your obedient servant,

M. L. BONHAM, JR.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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PELHAM, 22d June, 1887.

Dear Mrs. Perry—On my recent return from the mountains, I have found on my desk the pamphlet, In Memoriam, which you so kindly sent me. Allow me to express my entire sympathy with this grand tribute to our late friend.

He has left to those who have survived him the grandest of all heritages—the heritage of truth and honor.

With thanks for your kind attention,

Yours very sincerely,

O. P. JACKSON.

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SUNNY SIDE FARM, June 24th, 1887.

Dear Mrs. Perry—Please allow me to thank you for the pamphlet which I received a few days ago containing so many high and just tributes from so many eminent sources to the memory of Governor Perry. Surely such a life and character as his will be cherished fresh and affectionately in the memory of our people. And his unfaltering loyalty to truth for truth's sake must prove an abiding inspiration to the young men of this and succeeding generations. I am glad that it was my privilege to know him.

Again thanking you for your kind consideration, I remain,

Yours most respectfully,

M. L. DONALDSON.

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OFFICE OF LYLES & HAYNSWORTH,
ATTORNEYS AT LAW, 10½ LAW RANGE,
COLUMBIA, S. C., June 27th, 1887.

Dear Madam—I desire to express my pleasure at receiving the Memorial of the life and services of your late distinguished husband. His was indeed a life of power and achievements and the influence of his example and good works will long be felt in our State.

I also received a copy of his Erskine College Address, and thank you for your thoughtfulness for the "young men" of the State in perpetuating his thoughts, for indeed "his words of wisdom" were calculated to elevate and ennoble all who came under their influence.

With great respect, yours truly,

WM. H. LYLES.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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SPARTANBURG, S. C. June 28th, 1887.

Dear Madam—Please accept thanks for the Memorial of your most estimable husband. I shall never forget the impression his dignified manner and courtly bearing made upon my youthful mind the first time I saw him. He was truly one of "nature's noblemen." I am afraid it will be a long time before the State produces another such son.

Wishing you a long and happy life, I am,

Most respectfully,

J. F. CLEVELAND.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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CINCINNATI, OHIO, June 28th 1887.

Dear Mrs. Perry—I have been slow in acknowledging the favor and the compliment of the Memorial pamphlet you were kind enough to send me, which I have read with unusual interest. I was much away from home, and when at home, was necessarily attentive to the arrangements for my wife and oldest daughter, who were about to go Europe, and have since reached there for a sojourn of some months.

Your husband was fortunate in maintaining the esteem of his fellow-citizens while questioning the soundness of their opinions on a topic which necessarily involved much and deep feeling. The fact that he did so is conclusive of the integrity of character, courage and genuineness of his manly qualities. I remember as far back as the great senatorial debates in the time of President Jackson and the subsequent years, the impression made on me and others by your husband's unbending fidelity to his convictions and his ability in expounding them, but I had no thought that he was of the same general lineage. In the biographical sketch contained in the pamphlet he is spoken of as of the same lineage with the Commodore, Oliver Hazard Perry. I had imagined it to be so but lacked evidence Since receiving the Memorial pamphlet I had for a client a Mr. R. N. Hazard, president of a large trust company in New York. He reminded me of the

middle name, Hazard. He says he is of the same family, and that his family—the family of the mother of the hero of Lake Erie—have always considered our branch of the Perrys to be of the same stock as the commodore; and that a distinct resemblance in personal appearance of our branch of the Perrys with the branch to which the hero belonged has been perceptible to him. There have been a number of commodores in that line. Perhaps it is imputable to the fact that the first of that line made his home at Sandwich—a poor little sand bank on the coast, and naturally ploughed the sea rather than the land.

Thanking you again for your kindness, I am,

Sincerely yours,

AARON F. PERRY.

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DUDLEY & NEWTON'S LAW OFFICE,
BENNETTSVILLE, S. C., June 29th, 1887.

Dear Madam—I kindly thank you for sending me the pamphlet containing the words of praise and veneration for Governor B. F. Perry, coming from so many with whom I am acquainted and being, too, just tributes to the worth of him to whom they relate. The attachment of my father for him almost intuitively taught me to regard him as a most superior man, especially to foresight and his adhesion to opinions, the result of study and experience. Of course, I recollect nothing of his political record in 1832 except from the pages of history, confirmed by his noble course in 1860. It is rare to find one who can pursue his honest convictions to that length, which would array popular feeling, and not have the slightest effect upon action. Governor Perry seemed indifferent to his personal interest when the welfare of his State and the vital interest of the South demanded of him to assume to differ as to results. What a solace, when time establishes the right. I once asked my father how he became a nullifier in 1832. His reply was that it was for the want of better judgment. Our feelings and not judgment too often dictate an unsafe line of conduct.

I am, with much respect,

Very truly yours,

T. E. DUDLEY.

MRS. B. F. PERRY, Greenville, S. C.

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RECTORY OF CHURCH OF ATONEMENT,
AUGUSTA, GA., July 2nd, 1887.

My Dear Mrs. Perry—The pamphlet In Memoriam to your noble husband reached me some days ago. I thank you for your very kind remembrance. In my early boyhood the noble form and dignified

bearing of Governor Perry impressed me and excited my admiration. Then his strong and uncompromising adhesion to true democratic principles, free from any expediency or compromise, drew forth my respect and veneration. I remember that I would go into the office of Vardry McBee and we together would talk of the Governor—the grand "old Roman" as we called him—how he would grace the senate chamber and be the peer of any of its members. Now that I am a man I can appreciate character, steadfastness to principle, statesmanship, bravery to stand alone when the world is against you. Of all public men of these later days I take Governor Perry as the best, the ideal, *O, si sic omnes.* In these days when the land is afflicted with politicians, with time serving men—men of expediency without principle and opinion—when the fickle whim of the people is the guide of action and not truth and honor, would that another man like your husband would arise to be a guide and model to the young men of South Carolina.

It is well that you are putting his life before the men of the State. May God bless your efforts.

With the deepest respect,

I am, yours sincerely,

JOHN GASS.

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GREENVILLE, S. C., July 2d, 1887.

Dear Mrs. Perry—Please accept my thanks for your kind thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of the "In Memoriam" of your noble husband Governor Perry.

Being of a younger generation and but lately come to Greenville after a long residence out of the State, it was not my good fortune to know Governor Perry personally, but I knew his face and somewhat of the history and character of the man. His most bitter opponents amidst the most tremendous issues that ever came upon a people, when it would likely cost a man something to stand by his convictions, are forced to admire his towering intellect and devotion to what he conceived to be his duty. His purity of principle, integrity of purpose and unswerving adherence to duty shine out so brilliantly in his character that they will have their influence in the formation of the character of many of the youths of our country.

Yours, very respectfully,

CAROLUS A. SIMPSON.

BEAUMONT, ASHEVILLE, N. C., 10th July, 1887.

My Dear Madam—I can not thank you too much for remembering me, in sending the Memoriam of your illustrious husband, which was received on my return from the coast. Perhaps no man living has a higher appreciation of the noble men who made our country what it was. And no one feels greater anxiety for the future than I do, as one by one of our statesmen pass away. The teaching of the age makes millionaires instead of statesmen, a condition of things if not checked, will endanger our government. Mrs. Hazzard joins me in thanks and best wishes for your good health.

Very respectfully,

WM. MILES HAZZARD.

MRS. B. F. PERRY.

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GREENVILLE, S. C., July 12th, 1887.

Dear Mrs. Perry—Let me thank you for the volume in memory of your beloved husband, the late Governor Perry. "In Memoriam" should be in every South Carolina home, that the boys of our State might have constantly before them a *model character*, built upon truth, integrity, honesty and faithfulness. As the years go by the magnificently rounded character of Governor Perry will shine brighter and brighter.

It is rarely the case that a statesman lives to see the fulfilment of his political phophecies either for weal or woe; yet, Governor Perry, standing almost alone, pointed out the ruin which would result in following the teachings of the political leaders of the State, and he lived to see the storm not only come, but in its fury totally destroy the existing conditions of society. And be it said to his strong arm, mighty brain and mastery of statemanship was entrusted the duty of restoring peace, harmony and prosperity to his beloved State. He lived to see Carolina restored to her place in the Union, governed by her own trusted sons; he lived to see her citizens happy and prosperous; he lived to see his children honored and loved by their fellow-citizens; he lived to hear the plaudits of his people—"Well done, good and faithful servant." His life work was done—and well done.

It will always be a consolation to you, Dear Mrs. Perry, that Governor Perry was loved and honored, and that the love and honor given him in life continues after death, and these with warm sympathy will be yours in the declining years before you.

With sincere sympathy for you in your great affliction, believe me,

Very truly, your obedient servant,

R. S. MORGAN.

The following, written in pencil in 1870, by the late John D. Ashmore, Representative in the Congress of 1858–59, from the Fourth District of South Carolina, was found in the back of a volume of Scott's "Rob Roy" borrowed by that gentleman from Governor Perry's library and subsequently returned:

"Hon. B. F. Perry, Greenville, C. H., S. C."

"Pencilled by a friend and admirer, and one who has known him, boy and man, for well nigh forty years, and has been for more than half that period associated with him more or less in the councils of this distracted, and now well-nigh ruined country, and who can with truth and sincerity assert and proclaim him to be the most truthful, sincere, upright and honest statesman, as well as the purest, and by far the most reliable man it has ever been the fortune of him who now pens these words ever to have met; a man whom it is an honor to know, possessed of more moral courage than any one of the many hundreds with whom he has been most intimately associated in the trying scenes through which this country has been of late years called on to pass and of whom it can be truthfully said, 'he is a man without blur or blemish.' Above disguise and meanness in all things, with heart and character pure as the crystal drops that form the mountain streams, and wise as the Sages of Scripture, the Consuls of Rome, or the Satraps of the East, and in patriotism high and pure as that of the 'Father of his country,' himself, and manifesting a wisdom, sagacity, penetration and statesmanship in the recent unhappy struggles of his country, far *beyond that of any living man.*

"Oh! that his counsel and wisdom had been followed and carried out as the guiding star of our cause, that a nation might rise up and call him 'blessed;' for full well would he have merited the blessing and been entitled to the proud distinction 'of the saviour of his country.' But alas! alas! his counsels have been set aside, his country a doomed wreck, and he with all the rest of us victims to the mad lust of power and misrule which has overwhelmed country and countrymen in one common vortex of ruin. When the hand that pencils these lines is cold in death, and the nature's nobleman to whom they are dedicated is recalled to his fathers, and his memory alone is left to be cherished by his family, friends, kindred and countrymen, let them not be effaced but remain as a feeble tribute from one who has known him long and known him well, and though often differing with him in judgment, has almost invariably found by the test of scrutiny and of time, his own error, while it has also vindicated the correctness and accuracy of the views of this 'nature's nobleman,' the Hon. Benjamin F. Perry, of Greenville, S. C."

# The Iron Man.

IN MEMORY OF THE LATE BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PERRY.
BY JOHN H. HEWITT.

Not iron strength—but iron soul,
  Firm as a rock, and true as steel;
A brilliant place on honor's roll,
  A loud voice for the nation's weal.
A heart that throbb'd for Southern rights,
  A tongue that uttered words of fire,
And made all plotters crawling mites;—
  The nation's peace his first desire.

From youth to age, a man of nerve,
  A scholar and a patriot, too,
He ne'er from honor's path would swerve,
  But to his cause was firm and true.
For noble types of manhood—seek
  The pages of past history;
None of a truer hero speak,
  None of a sage more ripe than he.

Like the bold Roman who struck down
  Ambitious Cæsar in his pride,
Who aim'd to wear a regal crown,
  But like a traitor died.
He check'd the Southron's wild excess;
  He pictured fratricidal war;—
Not that he loved his birthplace less,
  But that he loved the Union more!

He braved the anger of the crowd;
  Threats could not drive him from his post;
He warned them of the thunder cloud,—
  It burst—and Freedom's cause was lost!
And when he found his pleadings vain,
  And War's mad thunders shook the air,
He sought his quiet home again—
  And sent his sons to do their share.

Friend of my youth! for years estranged,
  This humble tribute to thy worth
Comes from a heart—old, but unchanged,—
  Which soon will seek its parent Earth.
Stern History will honor thee,
  If bias does not guide the pen;—
Strong for the nation's unity,
  But stronger for the rights of men!

BALTIMORE, *December, 1886.*

# MONUMENT

ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF GOVERNOR BENJAMIN FRANKLIN PERUY IN CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH CEMETERY, GREENVILLE, S. C.

[From the Greenville Daily News, August 12th, 1887.]

A handsome and imposing monument has been erected over the grave of ex-Governor Benjamin Franklin Perry in the cemetery of Christ Episcopal church, in this city. The monument is of a design, chaste and beautiful and befitting the character of the noble patriot and statesman, whose memory it will commemorate. It stands in the southeast corner of the family burying lot, rising to a height of twenty feet from the grass sod at its feet.

The monument is of Barre granite. It consists of three bases, supporting a die, upon which rests a cap, from which in turn rises the pyramidal spire. The lower base is plain. On the western face of the second base is the name "Perry," sculptured in bold letters in relief. There are no other inscriptions on the bases.

On each of the four faces of the die are raised tablets on the polished face of which are lettered the inscriptions. The western face contains the following:

IN MEMORY OF
BENJ. FRANKLIN PERRY,
BORN
NOVEMBER 20, 1805.
DIED
DECEMBER 3, 1886.

On the opposite face of the die appears the following inscription:

DISTRICT JUDGE
AND
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
OF THE
SOUTHERN CONFEDERACY.
STATE SENATOR AND
PROVISIONAL GOVERNOR
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
AND
UNITED STATES SENATOR
ELECT.

On the southern tablet are the words, "The world is better that he lived," and on the northern side, "Safe in the keeping of everlasting love."

The shaft that rises from the cap of the die is plain, except that on the western face is an artistic monogram of the letters "B. F. P." comprising the governor's initials.

The whole effect of the monument is impressive. It stands next to the grave of the young daughter of Governor and Mrs. Perry, and the contrast thus brought to pass between the sturdy statesman, dead in the ripeness of an honored old age, and the maiden taken in the flower of youth and loveliness, heightens the impressiveness of the solid granite shaft.

Made and erected by Messrs. Van Gunden & Young, of Philadelphia, Pa.

# INDEX.

LETTERS OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE FIRST EDITION OF THE MEMORIAL.